

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND
Journal of the Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

N^o 1979.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1854.

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Marlborough House, 30th November, 1854.

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JOHN BARLOW, M.A., Sec. R.I.

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MONT BLANC.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—During the Christmas week Mr. ALBERT SMITH will give his MONT BLANC, HOLLAND, and UP THE RHINE, every morning and evening at 3 and 8 (except Saturday evening). Balls can be taken for any of the representations at the Egyptian Hall every day from 11 to 4.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1854.

REVIEWS.

The Monumental History of Egypt, as recorded on the Ruins of Her Temples, Palaces, and Tombs. By William Osburn, author of 'The Antiquities of Egypt.' Trübner and Co.

As an introduction to the study of Egyptian history and antiquities, Mr. Osburn's work is admirably adapted. The reader is supposed to have only a general and slight knowledge of the researches which have occupied the attention of the learned, and he is therefore presented with information too often taken for granted by writers on the subject. After commencing with a descriptive and historical sketch of Egypt and its people, the author explains the system of hieroglyphical writing, and points out the other sources from which the ancient annals of the country are attempted to be restored. Then follow detailed notices of the chief monumental remains, and a narrative of the history of Egypt as deduced by the author from his archaeological researches. In the first volume he records the ascertained events from the remotest colonization of the valley of the Nile to the visit of the patriarch Abraham, and in the second the story is brought down to the exodus of the Israelites under Moses. While the early chapters have an elementary aspect, much learning and ingenuity are displayed in the historical and critical researches which form the bulk of the work, and the conclusions of Mr. Osburn deserve the highest consideration from Egyptologists. One of the most important branches of his inquiry is that which relates to the alleged antiquity of the Egyptian nation. The authority of Bunsen has of late years sanctioned the idea of historical periods quite inconsistent, not merely with the sacred writings, but with the chronology and history of other countries. The errors of Bunsen have been pointed out by various authors, but never more conclusively than by Mr. Osburn in his monumental history. The simple and satisfactory explanation of the prodigious antiquity ascribed to Egypt on account of the numerous dynasties of its kings, is that many of these dynasties were contemporaneous not successive. As was observed in a recent review of Dr. Bunsen's work ('L. G.,' ante, p. 904), "he falls into as great an error as if we added the reigns of the kings of Scotland, the Princes of Wales, and the kings of England, to obtain the length of the interval between the Conquest and Edward I." We cannot enter here into the discussion, but the result of the researches of Mr. Osburn is to prove the existence of contemporary dynasties, where kings have been by other writers counted successively. Thus, with regard to the fourth and fifth dynasties, after showing that they lasted only about 120 years, instead of several centuries, Mr. Osburn states the confirmatory grounds of his statement:—

"This enormous abatement from the numbers in the lists is made on no arbitrary grounds. It is imperatively required by the domestic histories of the princes of the epoch, which are written in their tombs at Ghizeh, and elsewhere in the cemetery of Memphis. No one of them has served for the burial-place of more than two descents from the founder. They differ remarkably herein from the tombs of Gournou and other cemeteries in Egypt, where six, ten, and even twenty succeeding heads of the same family were interred in the same vault.

We state this fact, after taking much pains to ascertain it. We are not aware of one exception to it. Even in the tombs of the princes Sesoschrenes and Raphut, the founders, their children, and their grandchildren only were buried, though both families were cotemporary with five Pharaohs. On the calculation of three descents in the century which was adopted in Egypt, the 121 years of the canon agree with this indication. If we approximate these dates to actual duration, taking two centuries for the lapse of time between the first settlement and the commencement of the 4th dynasty, Mencheres appears to have succeeded to the throne of Egypt about 258 years after the founding of Memphis, and to have reigned for 63 years.

"This date for the accession of Mencheres completes our proof that the 4th and 5th dynasties must have been nearly cotemporary. The intimate and immediate association of their two founders, Soris and Usercheres, which we have pointed out in so many tombs, strongly suggests the same fact. Another indication of it likewise appears a hundred miles higher up the river on the eastern bank, at a locality now called Isbayda, or Sheeh Zaid, where a tomb has been excavated by a prince who was steward of the land attached to the Great Pyramid of Ghizeh and priest to Suphis in it, and to the pyramid of Usercheres. The site of this tomb is about half way between Memphis and Abydos. The same suggestion assuredly arises out of these circumstances. Suphis and Usercheres were cotemporary kings reigning at Memphis and Abydos, in close alliance and friendship with each other. By this cotemporaneity we satisfactorily account, moreover, for the confusion of Nu-Suphis with Sephres, in the Greek tradition. They seem to have been co-regent in their two kingdoms, and the second pyramid was begun before the first was finished; Memphis being at this time the burial-place of all the kings of Egypt. By the same circumstance we as satisfactorily account for the double entry of the name of Mencheres. The time of his accession is correctly represented by the entry in the 4th dynasty. The order of his succession is denoted by that in the 5th. It was a mistake at first, whatever were the motives for its retention afterwards.

"We are able, therefore, to state, upon good and sufficient grounds, that the 4th and 5th dynasties reigned together at Memphis and Abydos."

This subject we must not follow further, but we think that some of the chief difficulties that have startled the students of Egyptian antiquities are here satisfactorily solved. The genuineness of the Hebrew records receives additional confirmation, and the beginning of Egyptian chronology, as deduced from her monumental history, approximates as nearly as possible to that assigned by the Mosaic records for the foundation of the primitive kingdoms of the earth. Apart from the error of reckoning up cotemporary dynasties, allowance has also to be made for the gross exaggerations and flattering falsehoods of the priests, who aimed at the glory of the country and of its kings, rather than at historical truth. Those who are versed in the subject will see from the following summary the tenour of the author's conclusions as to the early periods of the history of Egypt:—

"Period 1. The founding of the cities of Tanis, Bubastis, Heliopolis, and others in the eastern Delta; the discovery and working of the copper mines by the Gulf of Suez. All these events seem to have occurred about the same time, and to have mutually influenced each other.

"Period 2. Menes, the son of the first king of Tanis, crossed the Nile at the head of a party of adventurers, attacked and defeated the Phutim, who were forming settlements on the western bank, and founded the city of Memphis. Shortly afterwards he converted his Phutite enemies into his subjects by marrying the daughter of the chief he had

conquered, and by making Phut the local god of his new city. He seems, however, to have warred successfully with other tribes of the Phutim to the south and west during his whole reign, and to have employed the captives in his vast engineering operations. He had a long reign, and possibly many successors in Western or Upper Egypt.

"At the same time, the colonization of the Delta was in rapid progress, and two of the kings of the eastern dynasty, cotemporary with Menes and his successors, also proceeded to the southern-most of his mounds, and there conquered and reclaimed tracts of country. Of these kings, Cechous seems to have acquired a territory to the northward of the mound, and Raophis to the southward.

"Period 3. The Phutim recovered Memphis from the descendants of Menes. They were expelled by Sephuris, or Soris (who were probably father and son), with the aid of the eastern Pharaohs. With these two kings the two Egypts (i.e., on both banks of the Nile), were united under one dominion.

"Period 4. Suphis and his successors, to Sephres, proceeded with the irrigation of the lands around Memphis and between the two mounds of Menes, while Usercheres penetrated the valley 200 miles further south, and began to cut the canal of the Eagle.

"The Delta seems to have been subject to all these monarchs.

"Period 5. Mencheres dedicated the temple of the city built by Usercheres to Osiris, and named it Abydos. The war for the limbs of Osiris. Its consequences. Three pretensions to the throne of all Egypt; at Memphis the 6th dynasty, at Sebennytus the 9th, at Abydos (or Thebes) the 11th.

"Period 6. The treaty of Usercheres II. at Abydos with Onnos at Memphis. Marriage of the daughter of Onnos with the son of Usercheres, and thence the extinction of the Memphite pretension in the person of their son Amenemes.

"Period 7. Pacification of the war for the limbs of Osiris by Achthoes, the son of Usercheres. Heliopolis and Memphis in the possession of his son Amenemes. The monarchy at this time (the commencement of the 12th dynasty) divided between two pretenders; the Theban, or Upper Egyptian, Pharaohs of the 12th dynasty, and the Sebennytic Pharaohs (soon afterwards called Shepherds), of the 10th.

"The extent of Egypt, at this last period, was from Eilethya in the upper country to the seacoast in the eastern Delta. Whether the settlements on the western or Bolbatine mouth had as yet proceeded further north than Sais is doubtful."

From the general description of Egypt with which the work commences we quote some paragraphs:—

"The most ancient traveller that ever visited Egypt and left the record of what he saw there, has condensed his own impressions of this land of wonders in the terse definition 'Egypt is the gift of the Nile.' We believe that in no other words can the peculiarities of this land be so exactly described. Egypt is the narrow strip which the world of waters of a huge tropical river, diffusing themselves and diffused by man's labour to the widest possible extent, can reclaim to productiveness from the sands of the African desert. Scarcely have the waters of the *Bahr-el-abiad*, or White Nile, which comes from the very heart of Africa to the westward, become confluent with those of the *Bahr-el-azek*, or Blue Nile, which rushes from the mountains of Abyssinia eastward, when the northern progress of their united torrent is opposed by the sands and rocks of the great Sahara, and along a devious course of more than two thousand miles the Nile flows on, receiving no single tributary into its bosom until it reaches the Mediterranean. Thus does this noble river diffuse fertility, and happiness, and life over vast tracts of country, always expending its waters, never receiving a single drop of accession to them from the heaven above or from the earth beneath; so that when it

reaches Cairo and the head of the Delta, the bulk and volume of its tide is scarcely one half of that which roars among the rocks of Djebel Silsili, and foams through the cataracts of Assouan.

"That the fertility of Egypt is dependent altogether upon the Nile, is a truth so patent and so palpable, that there is no understanding so grovelling, no intellect so debased, among the sons of men, that he cannot perceive it. The sun writes it with his fierce beams upon the bleached rocks and arid sands of the surrounding desert. It is heard in the voice of the sand-wind, as, full-charged with burning dust, it rushes down the gullies of the mountains of Upper Egypt, and in the course of a very few minutes buries the feeble efforts of man to awaken to life and greenness a few spans of surface, deep beneath the hot sand-drift. The very laws of nature, or, to speak more truly with the modern Egyptians, the laws of God, proclaim it. Turn the course of the Nile, and not one blade of vegetation would ever arise in Egypt. The whole land would instantly relapse into the utter sterility of the western desert, whence that noble river with so fierce and painful a struggle reclaims it. In a word, Egypt is the Nile, and the Nile is Egypt.

"The natural phenomena of this land of wonders furnish fruitful themes for contemplation and thought. The remembrance of the days we have passed there is very sweet.

"Occupying precisely the extreme southern limit of the north temperate zone, the latitude of Egypt is that which on both sides of the Equator will be found far drier than any other portion of the earth's surface. The two perfectly distinct economies whereby the rains of the temperate and torrid zones are administered, find no place here; and it is only the presence of very high mountains, like the Himalayas in Asia, and the Andes in South America; or the waters of some vast river, like the Mississippi of North America, or the Nile of Egypt, that can rescue land so situated from sterility. The barrenness which thus marks out all lands in these latitudes is rendered far more conspicuous in Egypt by the circumstance of its being situated in the midst of the two great desert tracts of the world. The drifting sands of the Sahara stretch away westward from the Nile for more than four thousand miles to the Atlantic. To the eastward, the barren mountains of the Sinaitic peninsula and of Arabia Petraea, and the salt sand-plains of Persia, extend in a direct line for more than three thousand miles. It is to this, its perfectly peculiar topography, that Egypt is indebted for the extreme aridity which distinguishes it from all other inhabited countries in the world, and for that total absence of rain which is the proximate cause of it."

Of the monumental inscriptions, and the two forms of writing hieroglyphics, the following account is given. Some of the author's views as to the early use of phonetic symbols are original and ingenious, and deserve the attention of philologists:—

"The inscriptions that cover the monuments of ancient Egypt, differ in some remarkable particulars from all other known graphic systems.

"Every character of which they are composed, is a picture representing some visible object. These pictures are not mere conventional hints or outlines, like the Mexican or the old Chinese characters, but imitations of nature, as exact as the artistic skill of the scribe could produce, or the rigid forms and rules of Egyptian art would allow. On all the great and important monuments of ancient Egypt, the hieroglyphics are elaborately finished with colours; on those of a less costly nature, such as papyrus, linen, &c., they are merely inscribed in outline; but on both the pictorial skill of the scribe was taxed to the utmost.

"There were two cursive forms of writing hieroglyphics in use among the Egyptians. The one is called by Herodotus, the *hieratic* writing, from its being generally used by the priests. Many texts in this character are now extant. Its internal structure is identical with that of the hieroglyphics. The characters, however, are not pictures, but mere strokes and dashes of the pen, some-

what resembling the form of the hieroglyphics they represent, and executed far more easily and speedily. It is in a word the tachygraphy, or short-hand, of hieroglyphics. The other mode of writing hieroglyphics was called by the Greek authors, *demotic*, because it was in use among the people generally, and in the Greek inscriptions found in Egypt, *enchorial*, because it was the writing of the country. It is a still further corruption of the original hieroglyphics than the former mode, whence it was derived. It now appears that it was invented at a very late period of the history of Egypt."

We subjoin the description of the celebrated Rosetta stone, which afforded the first key to the interpretation of the Egyptian picture writing:—

"The block of basalt on which it occurs was found at Rosetta, on the eastern mouth of the Nile, by the engineers of the French army, in 1798, while digging the foundations of a fort. Together with many other antiques, it was afterwards captured by the English fleet, on its way to France, and deposited in the British Museum, where it still remains. The upper portion of this block is inscribed with fourteen lines of hieroglyphics, all mutilated by the fracture of the stone. Immediately below them are thirty-two lines in the demotic or enchorial character, but little injured by fracture or defacement. Unfortunately, this portion is at once the most perfect, and the least important of the three. The lowest portion of the block contains fifty-four lines of Greek, of which the first twenty-seven are perfect and uninjured; the remainder are all, more or less, mutilated at the end of the lines by an oblique fracture inclining inwards, so that the extent of mutilation regularly increases as the inscription approaches its termination, and the last line is the most imperfect of all. Unhappily, the fractures of the hieroglyphic original have been in the opposite direction; the lines become more mutilated as they proceed upwards. The beginnings of all of them are gone, and the terminations of the two last only remain. All the rest are mutilated at both ends; both mutilations regularly increasing as we proceed upwards; so that of the first line scarcely one-fourth remains. Thus, it will be perceived, that where the Greek is the most perfect, the hieroglyphics are the most mutilated; and the place where the largest portion of hieroglyphics remains, is precisely that in which the Greek inscription has sustained the most serious injury; so that the corresponding Greek to a large portion of the remaining hieroglyphics has been lost. This is, to the student, the more tantalizing, because that which remains of the last line of the Greek removes all doubt as to its really being a translation, by formally declaring the fact.

"This inscription is a statue of the priests of Egypt decreeing an apotheosis, or place among the gods then actually worshipped, to Ptolemy Epiphanes, the fifth successor of Lagus, the founder of the Greco-Egyptian monarchy."

Of the researches of Champollion, Lepsius, Bunsen, Birch, and other Egyptologists, critical notices are given throughout the work, which is illustrated with numerous plates and diagrams.

Memoirs of Celebrated Characters. By Alphonse de Lamartine. Second Edition, with Additions. Bentley.

THE new English edition of M. Lamartine's 'Memoirs of Celebrated Characters' has some additions, the most noticeable of which is a sketch of Milton. In this, as in his other memoirs of illustrious Englishmen, we do not look for any novelty of biographical detail, but it is interesting to have the opinions and sentiments of a man of genius and eloquence like Lamartine. We give some extracts from his memoir of the great epic poet, commencing with a characteristic paragraph, in

which the author's bias towards romance rather than history is displayed:—

"Milton, born of noble parents, living on their estate in the neighbourhood of London, after having formed his literary taste at the University of Cambridge, and having given evidences of his superior powers in various Latin poems, much admired by the erudite, was sent to Italy by his father, to become acquainted with the world and the existing state of learning on the Continent, before the age when it was intended he should devote himself to business and politics. He continued to reside there for a series of years, attracted by the charms of the climate, the graces of the women, the poetical associations of the places and people, the friendships he contracted with many distinguished patrons of genius, and by the softness of the air of Naples, which infiltrated itself through his veins, and made him lose sight of everything, even his glory and his native country. He confesses this himself, in verses written in the language of Tasso. 'I have forgotten the Thames for the voluptuous Arno. Love has so willed it, who never wills in vain!' From this we may collect that either Florence or Pisa contained a second Leonora for this new Torquato. Love alone solves many secrets which appear otherwise inexplicable in the lives of men, and particularly of poets. And how did this passion eventuate? Herein lies the mystery of that period of the life of Milton.

"On his return to England he found the parliament at war with the king, hostile arms in every hand, and every soul bursting with the flames of religious and political controversy. During three years he pondered in solitude, without seeming to incline either towards the royalists or the puritans, entirely absorbed in the studies preparatory to his future poem, the plan of which he had conceived while yet on his travels. In a letter to a confidential friend, written about this period, he thus expresses himself:—'Some day I shall address a work to posterity which will perpetuate my name, at least in the land in which I was born.' All great minds thus anticipate their future glory; this feeling, which the vulgar mistake for pride, is in fact the inwardly-speaking conscience of their genius. When these three years had passed over his head, Milton postponed his poem until times more favourable to literature, in case they should ever arrive, and declared for the cause of liberty. Poets had long followed in the train of courts and monarchs; he was tempted by the glory of being the first of his nation to espouse the side of God and the people: but neither the people nor the puritans had any ears to spare for poetry. Milton threw himself into the quarrel, armed with speeches, controversies, and pamphlets, those daily weapons of revolution. His genius, transformed but not debased, soon distinguished his name from amongst the crowd. It bore the manly republican impress of ancient Rome, emanating from the soul of an English enthusiast.

"Cromwell, who at that time personified in himself the citizens, the people, the army, the fervour of religious zeal, the national pride and privileges, became the Maccabæus of Milton's imagination. The poet attached himself to the fortunes of the Protector, as to his own and his country's destiny; he saw in him the champion of the people, the uprooter of monarchs, and a new judge of Israel: we find these exact expressions in his political writings of the period—Cromwell was the sword, while Milton wished to be the tongue of independence. Cromwell, who spoke much, but always badly, and had neither time nor leisure to write, hailed with eagerness the vigorous, eloquent, and imaginative talent which sought to place itself at his service. It was not enough for the experienced leader, the conquering soldier, to triumph on the battle-fields of Scotland and Ireland; he wished equally to despotize over public opinion. The royalists, the Roman Catholics, the partisans of the Reformed Church, waged against him an incessant war of pamphlets, which disturbed his rest and threatened to undermine his power. Milton

was employed to reply to their arguments or invectives. He placed him near his own person, in the position of private secretary, and confided to him the revision and publication of the acts of government.—That government concentrated itself in the single head of the Protector. This confidential member of Cromwell's cabinet was in reality the minister of the protectorate; his name became synonymous with power, and his fortune increased with the importance of his functions. His brothers left the country, and came to reside with him in a handsome mansion-house in London."

We do not follow M. Lamartine in his account of the politics of the time of the Commonwealth, but we pass on to the notice of Milton after the Restoration, about which period of the aged poet's life it is to be wished that fuller and more authentic records were extant:—

"The restoration of Charles the Second surprised him in the midst of his labours, rendered nugatory by the treason of the army, which first conquered, and then sold their country. Charles was not by nature vindictive; he was only thoughtless. He extended amnesty to all, even to the regicides; but his return called back the royalists to parliament, and they, like all partisans, were implacable. They outraged the natural gentleness of the young king, and demanded from him heads and proscriptions. Milton, who had steeped, if not his hands, at least his pen in the blood of the late monarch, and the massacres of Ireland, more atrocious than those of September 1792, hastened to hide himself in the hope of being forgotten. He resigned his office, and retired into an obscure suburb of London, to allow time for the vengeance of his enemies to pass away. After a short interval, to efface his name effectually from the remembrance of the royalists, he gave out that he was dead; and while still in existence, superintended the ceremony of his own funeral. To this subterfuge he was indebted for his life. He was not discovered until the first fury of reaction had become satiated, and in some measure exhausted by indulgence. From his own windows he had beheld the body of Cromwell, dug up by the common executioner, paraded through the streets of London, and exposed to the insults of the populace.

"Charles the Second heard of the retreat of Milton, and pretended to believe in the reality of his death. He had no desire to stain the commencement of his reign with the execution of one of those men destined to immortality, whose blood would cry loudly for vengeance through future ages. He even offered to reinstate him in his office of government advocate, if he would devote his talents to the cause of monarchy. His second wife entreated him to comply with this proposal. 'You are a woman,' replied Milton, 'and your thoughts dwell on the domestic interests of our house; I think only of posterity, and I will die consistently with my character.' By this time his affairs had declined into poverty, approaching to indigence. His eyes, ever weak, had almost entirely lost their light. When he ventured out, he was supported by the arm of one of his daughters. Charles the Second, one day when taking a ride, met him in St. James's Park, and inquired who was that handsome, blind old man. He was told that it was Milton. He approached, and addressing the ancient secretary of Cromwell in a tone of bitter irony, said, 'Heaven, Sir, has inflicted this chastisement on you, for having participated in the murder of my father!' 'Sire,' replied the aged sufferer, with manly boldness, 'if the calamities which befall us here are the punishment of our faults, or of the sins of our parents, your own father must have been very culpable, for you yourself have endured much misfortune.' The king passed on silently, and expressed no offence at the answer. Milton was now approaching his sixtieth year; but he still retained the freshness of mind and beauty of countenance which belong to youth. Genius consumes the weak, and preserves the strong. His involuntary idleness had driven him back to poetry, formerly the pastime, but now the consolation of his life.

The idea of the great epic which he had conceived in Italy, and postponed to the age of leisure, occupied his imagination more intensely than ever. He resumed his studies in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and Italian, with the enthusiasm of a youth. The realms of fancy carried him away delightfully from the actual world. His second wife being dead, he married a third, still young and handsome, who became the soul of his house and the mother of his children. She loved him too, despite his poverty and blindness. He wrote several treatises, and amongst others a History of England, to earn bread for his family and a dowry for his daughters; but his name injured the popularity of his works, and his poem encroached on his history. The royalists were indignant that a regicide should be permitted to write and live, and pamphleteers of the court inveighed against him without fear of a reply. 'They charge me,' thus he wrote to one of his friends, a foreigner, in a letter recovered long after, 'they charge me with poverty, because I have never desired to become rich dishonestly; they accuse me of blindness, because I have lost my eyes in the service of liberty; they tax me with cowardice, and while I had the use of my eyes and my sword I never feared the boldest amongst them; finally, I am upbraided with deformity, while no one was more handsome in the age of beauty. I do not even complain of my want of sight; in the night with which I am surrounded, the light of the Divine presence shines with a more brilliant lustre. God looks down upon me with more tenderness and compassion, because I am now see none but myself. Misfortune should protect me from insult and render me sacred, not because I am deprived of the light of heaven, but because I am under the shadow of the Divine wings which have enveloped me with this darkness. To that alone I attribute the assiduous kindness of my friends, their consoling attentions, their frequent, cordial visits, and their respectful complaisance!' 'My devotion to my country' (he again writes in another letter to the same friend) 'has scarcely rewarded me, and yet that sweet name of country charms me still. Adieu! I pray you to excuse the inaccurate Latin of this letter. The child to whom I am compelled to dictate it is ignorant of that language, and I spell every syllable over to him, that you may be enabled to read my inmost soul."

From the general remarks on 'Paradise Lost' we give a few sentences. It is only of the details of the poem that Lamartine is capable of forming an opinion. The subject and plan of the work are above his reach. Chateaubriand understood Milton better:—

"All who read are well acquainted with this poem. It is the narrative of the Bible mixed up with fables, adventures, and long dialogues. Except the apostrophe we have quoted, (the Apostrophe to Light,) some descriptions of Eden, and the loves of Adam and Eve in Paradise, the book owes its immortality to its style. A wearisome theology, partly Scriptural and partly imaginary, weighs down the flight of the poet, and fatigues the reader. The Supreme Being and His Son speak like men, and unlike divinities. They have friends and enemies amongst their own creatures; factions are stirred up in heaven and hell to dethrone the Uncreated. Angels and demons combat in the realms of space, with mechanical arms, and kill each other without dying, to dispute the possession of an insect called man, upon a grain of dust, indistinguishable in the immensity of chaos, and denominated the globe of the earth. Debates are held in the divine council as in a human parliament. There are orators of the celestial government, and tribunes of the condemned angels, who demand the head of the Most High as Milton clamoured for that of Charles the First. All this, despite the genius of the poet, is void of philosophy and full of tediousness. It is, in fact, the dream of a puritan who has fallen asleep over the first pages of his Bible.

"The versification alone redeems the inanity of the fable. It recalls, even to the rhythm, Homer, Virgil, and Racine. But Milton, notwithstanding

his posthumous renown as the first epic writer of England, remains even in that position at an immeasurable distance from Shakespeare, who reminds us of no one, but who translates nature instead of following sacred legends. * * *

"It is impossible to read without overpowering admiration the tender and pathetic scenes of the first appearance of Eve to Adam, and of Adam to Eve, in the garden of innocence: neither can we peruse without a thrill of chaste enjoyment the pure but impassioned conversations between the two earliest lovers of the human race. The historian who accuses Milton of never having regarded women but as domestic drudges, calumniates human nature. No heart but one teeming with enthusiasm for beauty, and overflowing with respect and tenderness for female worth, could ever have composed such verses."

M. Lamartine says in one place, "When we examine the archives and visit the libraries of the Italian sovereign, it is curious to observe how frequently, in the correspondence of the most eminent writers of that age, we find the name mentioned of this young Englishman, the friend of the muses, who speaks and even writes in muse the language of Torquato, and who promises to his native land a great orator, a great politician, and a great poet." We suspect that M. Lamartine here speaks with indiscreet vagueness about the numerous notices of Milton still extant in Italian archives. Had he published some of these, his sketch would have possessed greater interest. As it is, he has given to his countrymen some account of one who is not much known and seldom understood in France, though to English readers, such a memoir of Milton will afford little satisfaction.

Ladies of the Reformation. Memoirs of distinguished Female Characters belonging to the period of the Reformation in the Sixteenth Century. By the Reverend James Anderson. Blackie and Son.

This illustrated volume combines historical value and biographical interest with the attractiveness of pictorial art. The stories of distinguished women of the age of the Reformation are told with faithfulness and spirit by Mr. Anderson, the author of a similar work on the days of the Scotch Covenanters. With the biographical notices are given historical narratives of events, and statements of the truths to which the martyrs bore testimony, or the principles for which they suffered. The illustrations are beautifully executed from designs by Godwin, Archer, and other competent artists. There are more than a hundred woodcuts, besides tail-pieces, and other minor illustrations. The narratives of Mr. Anderson being chiefly drawn from well-known authorities, a detailed review of the book as a historical work is not called for; but we quote a part of the introduction to that part of the volume relating to the lives of witnesses and martyrs in Holland:—

"To crush the spirit of reform and of liberty, Philip despatched into the Netherlands Ferdinando Alvarez, Duke of Alva—a man after Philip's own heart, cruel, inexorable, and, from the time of Charles V., accounted by the Netherlands their implacable enemy—with an army consisting of between 8000 and 9000 foot, and 1200 horse, being the best of the Spanish and Italian soldiers, not only committing to him the supreme command of the forces, but appointing him to take cognizance of all causes in religion, and investing him with full power to pardon or to punish. The direction of civil affairs remained, as before, in the hands of the Duchess of Parma, as governess.

"Before Alva's arrival, William, Prince of

Orange, foreseeing the calamities likely to befall his country, to which, in the meantime, he saw no prospect of being able to render effectual assistance, had retired to his estates in Germany, where he renounced Romanism, and made an open profession of the reformed faith. Multitudes, following his example, fled, and Germany was filled with exiles.

"From the terror inspired by his very name, Alva met with no opposition from the Dutch on the frontiers; and on the 28th of August, 1567, he arrived at Brussels with his troops. One of his first acts after his arrival was the erection of a tribunal, consisting of twelve persons, which he called 'The Council of Disturbances,' but which, from its cruelty, was styled by the Netherlands 'The Council of Blood.' The members of this council were all lawyers, and, with the exception of two, who were gentlemen of quality, were recommended neither by birth nor merit. At the head of it was placed John de Vargas, a Spaniard, who surpassed all men living in brutal cruelty, in the estimation of even his own countrymen, who were wont to say that the caulked wounds of the Netherlands had need of such a sharp knife (as Vargas was) to cut away their dead flesh; and all its sentences were to be confirmed and signed by Alva. * From this court there was no appeal to a superior one, nor was there any revision of causes. Being once established, all matters were drawn to it, the ordinary courts being passed by; and it proceeded without delay to business by apprehending, banishing, executing, and confiscating the property of multitudes, of all sexes, ages, and conditions, not only of those concerned in the late insurrections, or who had embraced the reformed religion, but of those who were guilty in neither of these respects, on some slender pretext, as, for example, their having been seen once or twice at a conventicle, to which they had been led from mere curiosity.

"The numbers who consulted their safety by flight, carrying with them their goods, their skill, and enterprise to foreign lands, now daily increased. The duke had not been long in the country when those who had left it since his arrival, or shortly before, amounted to above 100,000, and many more were flying into exile every day.

"The Duchess of Parma, who was dissatisfied from the first with the amount of power committed to Alva, finding herself less taken notice of than before, and foreseeing the troubles which these severities were likely to occasion, implored the king so earnestly to be released from the office of governor, that her resignation was at last accepted, and leaving the Netherlands, she returned to Italy. Alva succeeded her as governor.

"No shrankings of humanity, much less religious obligation and moral duty, restrained this cruel and remorseless man in that ruthless career by which the Netherlands were reduced to a condition of immeasurable, unprecedented wretchedness. 'The gallows,' says Heer Hooft, in summing up in his history the shocking atrocities every day witnessed in that unhappy country at that period, 'the wheels, stakes, and trees in the highways were loaded with carcasses or limbs of such as had been hanged, beheaded, or roasted; so that the air which God had made for the respiration of the living was now become the common grave or habitation of the dead. Every day produced fresh objects of pity and mourning, and the noise of the bloody passing bell was continually heard, which, by the martyrdom of this man's cousin, and the other man's friend or brother, rung dismal peals in the hearts of the survivors. Of banishments of persons and confiscation of goods, there was no end.' By the council of blood it was accounted of no moment whether the evidence against the pannel was adequate or not. He was condemned to the flames, to the gallows, or to the sword, though nothing like proof of having violated the laws had been established against him.

"As if he would compete for the palm of ferocious butchery with the most sanguinary characters recorded in history, Alva was wont to boast, after

he left the Netherlands, that during the few years that he had governed that country,—namely, from the close of August, 1567, to the beginning of December, 1573, he had caused 18,000 heretics and rebels to pass through the hands of the executioner, without including those who had lost their lives in the war. Yet his right-hand man, Vargas, would at the same time affirm that the Low Countries were lost by foolish compassion.

"Such were the tyranny and oppression to which the Netherlands provinces were subjected on account of the Reformation during the period embraced in the sketches of the first five female martyrs included in this portion of our work; and these martyrs are the representatives of thousands, and tens of thousands of female worthies, who suffered imprisonment, banishment, or death, for the truth in the Netherlands.

"The sketches of the last two ladies, who were the wives of William, Prince of Orange, introduce us to a scene in the history of the Netherlands which somewhat relieves the feelings of desolation experienced in contemplating the preceding unmitigated persecution,—namely, the efforts of that prince, by an appeal to arms, to deliver his country from this terrible oppression, and the success which, to a great extent, attended these efforts; though it is painful to find that so disinterested a patriot at last fell by the hands of an assassin."

The whole of the work does not relate to scenes of violence and blood; the life of Queen Elizabeth, and of others memorable in the prosperous annals of Protestantism, having a conspicuous place. But the chief interest of the book, and, we may add, its chief influence as a record of Christian heroism and Protestant principle, will be found in the story of humbler martyrs and confessors. The circulation of a work like this will serve the cause of all that is pure in religion and lofty in patriotism. It is to her Christianity that England owes her chief greatness; and the influence of Protestantism upon national prosperity may be traced in the history of all the countries of Europe. Our American brethren will also know how to value a book like this. We are glad to see that it is published at New York as well as in this country. The present volume is confined to biographies of women connected with England, Scotland, and the Netherlands. Another volume will include notices of distinguished females in the annals of the Reformation in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, and Spain.

The last Earl of Desmond: a Historical Romance of 1599-1603. 2 Vols. Dublin: Hodges and Smith.

To write a really successful historical romance requires genius and art possessed by few authors. The more important the field of action, and the more distinguished the personages, the more difficult is it to construct a fiction that will satisfy the reader. The time chosen for the present tale is at the close of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, between the years 1599 and 1603; and the scene is the province of Munster in Ireland, with which, about that period, are associated the names of some of the greatest of England's worthies, especially Sir Walter Raleigh and Edmund Spenser. The hero of the tale is James Fitz-Thomas, the last Earl of Desmond, well known in history. The stirring events of that time of rebellion and of conquest form the staple of the narrative, while many interesting sketches are introduced of Irish life and character. The frequent quotations from Spenser's 'Faërie Queene,' and the intermingling of numerous literary allusions with the narrative will please many readers, though

the tale is thereby less adapted for popularity with ordinary readers. Of one point in connexion with the 'Faërie Queene' we give the author's announcement in his own words:—

"I believe I have made a discovery in the *Faërie Queene*; but as I am not well read in the glossaries of this divine allegory, it becomes me to speak with caution. It is possible, perhaps probable, that what I think is a new discovery is as old as the book.

"There is no doubt that Spenser intends to describe Sir Philip Sidney under the title of Astrophel, and that he calls Sir Walter Raleigh the 'Shepherd of the Ocean;' but I have never heard it stated that he meant Sir Walter by the Knight Marinell. I believe this to be the case, and that Marinell's combat with Britomart—whom he 'strokes upon the breast'—is descriptive of an *affaire de cœur* between Raleigh and the Queen."

From the historical introduction, containing notices of the Earls of Desmond, we quote some of the most interesting passages. The family is said to have come from Florence to Normandy, and thence to England with William the Conqueror. The first chief of the Irish branch of the House crossed with the invaders in A.D. 1169, and assisted Strongbow in the reduction of the island. The history of the family abounds in romantic incidents:—

"Thomas, the sixth Earl, died in exile in 1420. Here we have a sadly interesting tale, which I am honest enough to confess gave me the first idea—but that is all—of the story of my book.

"This young nobleman, when hunting on the banks of the river Feal, near the town of Listowel, in Kerry, strayed from his companions, and lost his way; and, being benighted, took shelter in the house of Mac Cormac, one of his dependents. Mac Cormac had a fair daughter, with whom the young Earl became suddenly enamoured. He wooed and won her heart, and married her; but his alliance with the humble maiden excited the brutal pride of his followers, who regarded the indulgence of his honourable love as an unpardonable offence; they therefore deserted his person and pennon, and selected his uncle as leader and chief. He, with a broken heart, fled with his beautiful bride to Rouen, in France, where he died. It is to the honour of the heroic and chivalrous Henry V. of England, who was then in France, that he expressed his admiration of the young Earl's character, conduct, and choice, by attending, as chief mourner, at his grave. Moore has immortalized the memory of the banished Earl, whom he represents as thus addressing his followers:—

"You who call it dishonour
To bow to this flame—
If you've eyes—look but on her—
And blush while you blame.
Hath the pearl less whiteness,
Because of its birth?
Hath the violet less brightness,
For growing near earth?"

The eighth Earl was Governor of Ireland under Edward IV., and was much beloved by the King. He fell a victim to the rage of the Queen, having advised Edward against the unwise alliance with Elizabeth Woodville. She got Lord Worcester appointed in Desmond's place, who was then accused of treason:—

"They brought the order for beheading him to the King, who refused to sign it; but the Queen, who hated Desmond as bitterly as Herodias did John the Baptist—and with far better reason—obtained the signet by stealth, and placed it with her own fair hand on the paper, and sent it to Worcester, who instantly acted on it, as he laid claim to some of the Earl's estates. Desmond's brother, and his five sons—when they heard of the Earl's death—all rose in rebellion.

"When Edward IV. was made acquainted with the treachery, he became so enraged with the Queen, that she had to leave the court, and fly to

a place of safety. Worcester was shortly after beheaded himself. Kildare boldly repaired to Edward, who received him kindly, and had his attainer reversed."

Of the "Old Countess of Desmond," who lived to the same age as "Old Parr," there is the following notice:—

"Sir Thomas, the twelfth Earl, died in 1534. He was famous as the husband of the 'Old Countess of Desmond,' who lived to the age of one hundred and forty-five years. Some would make her one hundred and sixty-two, or three. 'I knew the old Countess,' says Sir Walter Raleigh, in his 'History of the World,' 'who lived in the year 1589, and many years since, and who was married in Edward IV.'s time; and held her jointure from all the Earls of Desmond, since then; and that this is true, all the noblemen and gentlemen in Munster can witness."

"If she was married, even at the early age of fifteen, in the last year of Edward IV.; and if she died in 1612, about two years before the publication of the 'History of the World,' she must have been no less than one hundred and forty-five years of age—that is, the same age as Old Parr."

"There is a story current that she danced with Richard III. And she always affirmed that 'he was the handsomest man in the room, except his brother, Edward; and he was very well made.'"

Horace Walpole published, at Strawberry Hill, an 'Inquiry into the Person and Age of the long-lived Countess of Desmond,' in 1758. It is said that—

"A certain Sir Walter St. John, and a certain old Lady Dacre, were said to have conversed with our ultra-venerable Countess; and from her oral declaration to have handed down this *judicium*, in refutation of the *spretæ injuriæ formæ* of the calumniated prince, the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III."

"The death of this famous old lady is ascribed to an accident:—She might have lived much longer, had she not met with a kind of violent death, for shee must needs climb a nut-tree, to gather nutts; soe falling down, shee hurt her thigh, which brought on fever, and that brought death."

We pass on to the time when the present tale commences:—

"During the entire reign of Queen Elizabeth, a period of forty-five years, fierce and incessant wars were waged by her Government against the Earls of Desmond in Munster, and the O'Neills in Ulster, the Great Northern and Southern princes or potentates of Ireland, who resisted the establishment of the Reformation to the death. During the last fifteen years of the Queen's reign, the war was cruel and exterminating. It is called by O'Sullivan Beare, *Bellum Quindecim Annorum*, or 'Fifteen Years' War.'

"It cost millions of money, and the lives of hundreds of thousands of men, besides an enormous destruction of property, of cattle, corn, castles, monasteries, and towns. It is supposed that the total expenditure of English money was about three millions, which has been estimated as equal to thirty millions of money of the present day—an enormous sum, considering the limited extent and resources of the British empire at that time. About a hundred thousand men are supposed to have fallen at each side. A number of English Generals and Lord Deputies were killed and wounded in these wars. * * * When the property of the last Earl was confiscated, Raleigh and Spenser received grants of lands in the county Cork. The poet got the Castle of Kilcoleman, and about three thousand acres of rich land around it."

"Here it was that he wrote his 'Faerie Queene,' and here he was visited by his friend Raleigh, whom he styled the 'Shepherd of the Ocean.' But he did not long enjoy these grants of the old Earl's forfeited estates, for, after a very few years, his castle was attacked by the rebels, and burned to the ground, his child perishing, it is supposed, in the flames. Shortly after this my tale commences."

From the tale itself we can give but one extract, in which some of the chief characters appear, and in which the peculiarities of the style are displayed. The harper Dermot is one of the most marked characters in the book. In his person the author produces some original poetry, as well as translations from old Irish minstrelsy. The Earl was generally accompanied by his faithful and skilful harper:—

"It was the object of the Earl to get before the Lord President, who was hastening to Cork with a force of seven hundred foot and one hundred horse. The Irish leader hoped to concentrate his forces somewhere between Waterford and Youghal, where he expected to meet the English forces. This was the cause of his hasty movement from the neighbourhood of Kilkenny, while his wound was fresh and inflamed."

"They had travelled about thirty Irish miles towards the south, when the exercise of hard riding, and the chafing of his armour and heavy regimentals, loosened the bandages, re-opened the wound, and produced a fresh hæmorrhage. * * *

"I fear I must soon leave the saddle, Dermot," said the Earl, bending forward on his horse's neck, from excessive weakness. "Father Archer would give all the blood in his body for the cause in which we are engaged; and I believe mine has nearly all ebbed forth, for I feel as weak as water. Where can I put up? The troop must push forward with Lieutenant Lacy. Nothing need be said of my absence or wound."

"How many of the men do you wish to stay with you, my lord?"

"No one but you and Mac Rory."

"What does your lordship mane? We are not in a safe part of the country yet; your honour is unknown to the people about here, who would betray you to the President for five pounds, or less."

"For that very reason it is necessary we should remain unknown. You must seek out some quiet resting-place; and the sooner the better, for I cannot advance much farther."

"Having explained his condition and his intentions to his trusty friend, Lieutenant Lacy, Lord of Bruff, and commanded him to ride forward at the head of the troop, he, Dermot, and young Mac Rory, took the first mountain pass to the right, expecting to find the shelter of a cave or rest beneath the shadow of a rock, for not a single human abode could be seen. After ascending a hill, which commanded a green and fruitful dell, through which meandered a clear, pebbly, and rapid stream, they looked around them for a habitation, but could see nothing but an ivy-clad monastery in ruins. 'Let us rest awhile on this green bank,' said the Earl, dismounting; 'I shall be better able to proceed by-and-by.'

"Dermot and Mac Rory dismounted also. The latter wandered at random, and ran hither and thither among the hills, with the thoughtless delight of a young greyhound."

"What has caught that boy's eye now? Look at him, my lord. He sees something more than common from the top of that cliff, or he would not stand so. But he sees we're lookin' at him, and here he comes; we will hear what it is. Mac, what's that you're looking at, *acushla*?"

"Mac Rory ran back with speed, approached the Earl, and said in a whisper, putting his finger on his mouth—'Come!'"

"What is it, boy," said the harper, whose curiosity appeared more excited than that of his master.

"Come!" said Mac Rory, with a curious and knowing expression of face.

"As the distance was not far, the green sward soft beneath his feet, and as the hæmorrhage of blood had stopped, the Earl approached the spot to which he pointed, and saw immediately beneath him, seated on a bank starred with primroses and mountain daisies, as lovely a girl as the western sun ever shone upon. 'Hush!' said he to his companions; 'do not disturb her for the world.'"

"She wore a straw hat, with a wide leaf, which

shaded her fair neck; the beautiful symmetry of her bust was fully developed by a close-fitting black velvet spencer. Her skirt of blue silk did not descend low enough to conceal her small foot, high instep, and well turned ankle. She was weaving a garland of flowers for the neck of a fine Irish wolf-dog, who watched the progress of the work with the attention of a young girl taking a lesson in crochet-stitch; and with, I verily believe, a deeper and closer interest than he would have watched the mixing of a mess for his supper. He seemed to have a sort of satisfied assurance that the garland was intended to adorn his own fine person. Though a brave dog, he had some of the vanity of an Indian chief. A Spanish lute lay on the grass by the lady's side."

"The harper, though an old man, about sixty years of age, was so transfixed to the spot, in admiration of the maiden's great beauty, that the Earl had to pull him back by the skirts, from the rock which overhung the primrose bank, on which this 'Flower of Flowers' was reclining. But Mac Rory, on the contrary, left the place and treasure to his companions, and went in search of something new, like the cock in the fable, who found the diamond, the value of which he did not understand."

"Isn't she beautiful?" said the harper to the Earl, drawing back with a sigh, as a greedy boy does from a show-box, when compelled to make way for a new-comer."

"Hush!" said the Earl, taking the harper's place, 'she's divine.' Having gazed in silence on this beautiful vision for about five minutes, he turned to his companion, and whispered in his ear, 'She has taken up the lute. Hark! she is going to sing.' He was not mistaken, for immediately after they heard a reverberation of sweet sounds running along the hill sides, as if each jutting rock were a lute or harp, or 'musical stone,' or as if Orpheus himself were the performer. It was the echo, and not the direct sounds of the lady's lute and voice which struck their ears. She had chosen the spot for the sake of the magical effect, with which she seemed familiar. The Earl caught the four last lines, which ran thus:—

"Ne let the same of any be envide:
So Orpheus did for his owne bride!
So I unto my-selfe, alone, will sing;
The woods shall to me answer, and my echo ring."

"The musician then moved further from the rock on which our hero stood, out of the range of the echo, and sang in a clear, deep, and most sweet-toned voice, the following verses:—

"Midst mountains wild and lonely,
Where shepherds tend their sheep,
'Midst ruins grey and hoary,
Where bones of martyrs sleep;
Among these wilds I wander,
Among these ruins stray,
And sometimes stop and wonder,
Or kneel me down and pray."

"O God! who made the mountains,
And spread the clouds on air,
O God! who made the fountains,
And all things good and fair;
Above these lofty mountains,
Or mountains e'er so high,
The winged thought oft stretches
To regions in the sky."

"And not alone the winged thought,
But soul and spirit wait,
With faith and hope expecting,
To enter Heaven's gate;
And 'midst the saints and angels,
Which throng the courts above,
To seek my long-lost parents,
For whom o'er earth I'd rove."

"Who can the maiden be?" exclaimed the Earl; 'an orphan it would seem, from her song.'

"Will I answer her on the harp?" inquired Dermot, with enthusiasm."

"Stop, perhaps she will sing again," said his master, laying his hand on his arm. "No, I believe not—she is preparing to go; perhaps you had better. It will detain her for a moment, and startle her less, in this strange place, than our appearance, or the sound of our voices. Do."

"What will it be?"

"Anything you can think of, but make haste, for she is about to rise and depart."

"'Fiash fargi tuile trio,
Desmond breo os Baubha blaith brie.'"
"English, man—English, Dermot," said the
Earl, interrupting the harper.
"The harper shook his head, and began again
thus:—

"'A raven of the sea of rapid flight,
Was Desmond, bravest in the light;
The fairest flower on Ireland's stem,
Was Erin's shield, and Munster's gem.'"
"Hold thee, there Dermot, no more of that
nonsense."
"Nonsense, my Lord!"
"Yes, cease now, and try something else."
"Whisht! I have what will please you now."
"What is it?"
"Something I made when I was coorting my-
self."
"Well, begin."

"For a year, and for a day,
'Mong the meadows and the hay,
A colon fair as May,
I strove to gain;
There's no art of tongue and eye,
Which our sex with maidens try,
Along with tear and sigh,
But all in vain."
"She's a golden feathered dove,
To whom I gave my love,
And who left me in the grove,
Alone to mourn.
And it's Heaven's decree,
That mine she cannot be,
I'll away upon the sea,
And ne'er return."

"The maiden started to her feet at the first sounds
of Dermot's harp and voice, like a fawn startled
by the huntsman's horn and wild halloo. It would
be difficult to say whether she was more surprised
or alarmed. At the first sound of the instrument,
the brilliancy and protrusion of her fine eyes, and
the rapid advance of her foot for flight, showed that
fear was predominant. But as the minstrel pro-
ceeded, the maiden's mouth partially opened, and
her head and neck were bent forward, and turned
somewhat aside, to catch the words, the sudden
cessation of which seemed to disappoint her."

Some of the descriptions of social and po-
litical life are not without practical interest
in our own time, as in this account of the
three leading species of Irish priests:—

"There have existed in Ireland since the con-
quest by Henry II., or, at least, since the Reform-
ation by Henry VIII., three kinds of Irish
priests: first, the *Irish priest par excellence*;
secondly, the *Anglo-Irish priest*; and, thirdly, the
Ultra-montane Irish priest. We have a specimen
of the first in Father Cavendish, the friend and
guardian of Ellen Spenser; of the second, in Miller
Macgrath, the Queen's Archbishop of Cashel; and
of the last in the Jesuit Archer. The first is ge-
nerally the *better man*; the second the more *loyal*
subject; and the third the more *sincere Papist*.
The first would oppose the Pope, for the sake of
his country; the last would sacrifice his country
for the sake of the Pope; and the second would
sell both country and Pope to promote his own in-
terests. The Irish people love the first, the Eng-
lish Government patronises the second; and the
court of Rome supports the last.

"The first class is now almost extinct; the
second is daily dying out; the last, as a necessary
consequence, is increasing.

"I merely assert the fact. I cannot stop in
my story to account for it. Whether it results
from the 'Liberator's' having bequeathed his
heart to Rome, or from the Pope's having started
as a Liberator himself, or from English legislation
on 'The Ecclesiastical Titles Bill,' I cannot po-
sitively assert: all these circumstances may have had
some influence; but of this there can be no doubt,
that Roman rule, and Roman Ultra-montanism,
have made rapid progress in Ireland within the last
few years. The old Irish priest is disappearing
as fast as the old Irish pig. But I do not think
that, in this instance, we have improved the breed
by the foreign admixture, which is not as 'racy
of the soil,' and far less 'Irish than the Irish them-
selves.'"

To the death of Edmund Spenser we find
the following allusion toward the end of the
story. Ben Jonson, it will be remembered,
tells that "he died for lack of bread in King's-
street (London), and refused twenty pieces
sent to him by the Lord of Essex, saying 'he
was sorry he had no time to spend them.'"
Doubt has been cast upon this melancholy
record, but the author of this work be-
lieves it:—

"'Dost thou know any particulars of the death
of Spenser, the father of the child?'
"He died in deep distress," said Raleigh.
"And he thy friend?"

"Even so; but I was abroad, and heard not
of it till my return; however, Lord Essex, when
he heard it, sent to befriend him, but it was too
late. Sir Philip Sidney, while he lived, was his
fast friend. He called Sir Philip *Astrophel*. But
Sidney died in '86."

"What of Essex? You say he befriended the
poet before his death. How?"

"On hearing of his distress, though in disgrace
and sorrow himself, he sent him twenty pieces.
But it was too late, for Spenser was dying when
he heard the news."

We have been much pleased both with the
historical and literary episodes which form a
prominent feature in the tale. The discus-
sions arising out of the poetical allusions in
the 'Faërie Queene' will be read with much
interest. But although the materials of the
book are excellent and unusual, the author
has not used them so skilfully as they might
have been for the construction of a tale likely
to be generally popular.

*The Codex Montfortianus. A Collation of
this Celebrated MS. with the Greek Text
of Wetstein, and with Certain MSS. in
the University of Oxford.* By Orlando T.
Dobbin, LL.D. Bagster and Sons.

THE Codex Montfortianus, a Manuscript of
the Greek Testament belonging to Trinity
College, Dublin, is a document of greater out-
ward notoriety than intrinsic value. It has
generally been referred to rather for contro-
versial than for critical purposes. In it alone,
of all manuscripts known in this country, is
found the verse 1 John, v. 7, upon which,
from the days of Erasmus, so much discussion
has been raised. The Codex Montfortii has,
in this way, acquired much celebrity in theo-
logical literature, and there are other points
connected with its history, which render the
present elaborate critical examination of it a
work of considerable interest to Biblical
students and scholars. The chief facts
known as to the history of the Montfort
Codex, are thus narrated by Dr. Dobbin:—

"The Codex Montfortianus, called also Dub-
linensis, probably the same which Erasmus entitled
Britannicus, noted '61' in the first part of
Wetstein's New Testament, in the second, '40,'
and in the third, '34,' contains the whole New
Testament, but is written in a modern hand, and
is probably of the sixteenth century. The leaves
are a thick, glazed paper, which Yearde took for
vellum, and, in consequence, ascribed to this MS.
a too great antiquity. And the proof that has
been alleged of its antiquity is, that it has readings
which are found neither in the Complutensian
edition, nor in that of Erasmus: but this shows
only that it was not copied from one of these
editions, not that it is more ancient than the
invention of printing. Unimportant as this MS.
may appear on account of its modern date, it
deserves a circumstantial description, as it is one
of those two MSS. which alone contain the cele-
brated passage of the three that bear record in
Heaven, 1 John, v. 7. I am indeed persuaded

that this passage is neither genuine, nor of any
importance in dogmatical theology; but since it
is a subject of so much controversy, and the ad-
vocates for its authenticity appeal to the Montfor-
tius in support of their doctrine, the MS. itself
becomes important in polemical criticism. Beside
the common works in which the MSS. of the Greek
Testament are described, the reader may consult
Bengel's remarks 1 John, v. 7, sec. vi. n. 6, and
the writers which he has quoted; also Wetstein's
note to this passage; and Michaelis' *Curse in
Actus Apostolorum Syriacos*, sec. xi., pp. 184-5.

"The name of this MS. is derived from a former
proprietor. Mill relates, sec. 1379, that it belonged
originally to one Froy, a Franciscan friar, then to
Thomas Clement, afterwards to William Chark,
and lastly to Thomas Montfort. Since the time
of Ussher, it has been preserved in the library of
Trinity College, in Dublin, where it is noted G. 97,
and hence it is sometimes called *Dublinensis*. As
Erasmus in the two first editions of his Greek
Testament omitted 1 John, v. 7, but in the later
editions inserted it, because he had found it in a
Codex Britannicus, it has been concluded, with a
very great degree of probability, that the Mont-
fortianus is the same as the Britannicus of Erasmus,
because, though every MS. in Great Britain has
been carefully searched, this is the only one which
contains the passage in question.

"As this MS. is one of the two pillars [the
Berlin MS., or Codex Ravianus, being the other]
which support the celebrated verse in the First
Epistle of St. John, it would be of some importance
in sacred criticism if we could trace it to its source.
We know the names of five of its proprietors, who
probably wrote their names at the beginning of the
MS., which enabled Ussher, the last proprietor,
before it came to Trinity College, Dublin, to men-
tion them in the London Polyglot. Montfort, who
possessed it before Ussher, and from whom the
MS. takes its name, because it belonged to him
when it was collated for the London Polyglot, was a
Doctor of Divinity at Cambridge, in the middle
of the last century. William Chark, or Chark,
possessed it before Dr. Montfort.

"William Chark is mentioned as a distinguished
scholar in Queen Elizabeth's time. He is probably
the same William Chark who was of Peter House,
and was expelled the University for heresy in 1572.
Thomas Clement, who possessed it before Chark,
is perhaps the person of whom Arias Montanus
speaks in the preface to the first volume of the
Antwerp Polyglot, dated 1569: EST ETIAM NOBIS
A CLEMENTE ANGLLO, PHILOSOPHO ET MEDICINÆ
DOCTORE, etc. Froy therefore, the Franciscan
friar, must have possessed it either about or before
the middle of the sixteenth century, a few years
previous to which, that is, between 1519 and 1522,
it was known to Erasmus by the name of Codex
Britannicus. We can ascend no higher in the
history of this MS., as we have no further data;
but it is probable that we have nearly reached the
time of its origin, since there is reason to believe
that it was only written a few years before the
last-mentioned period."

After citing many other particulars from
different writers, and coming to the conclusion
that the Montfort Codex and the Codex Brit-
annicus Erasmii are the same MS., Dr. Dob-
bin describes the appearance of the document
thus:—

"To these facts and speculations we have only
to add, that the volume is of a small octavo size,
contains in the whole 455 folios, and has only one
leaf glazed—that exhibiting 1 John, v. 7—with
white of egg, it would seem, or some other varnish,
to protect this particular leaf, oftentimes referred
to, and much handled, from fatal injury. The
other leaves are unglazed, of an ordinary but good
paper of the fifteenth century, to which period the
MS. itself belongs. It is written in a modern
cursive hand, and is apparently the work of three
or four successive scribes."

This explains the remark made by Dr. Tre-
gelles, at p. 169 of his learned work on the

'Greek Text of the New Testament,' recently noticed by us. "Of course," says Dr. Tregelles, "looked at the Codex Montfortianus. This MS. is commonly described as being on glazed paper; the glazing seems, however, to be confined to the pages which open at the verse 1 John, v. 7, and the gloss is apparently the result of the many fingers which have been applied to that place of this recent MS.; or, if not, the material at that place must be different." For the details of the examination of the MS., and its collation with the text of Wetstein and with Oxford MSS., we must refer the student to Dr. Dobbin's book, merely quoting his frank and proper statement as to the bearings of the most prominent part of the critical inquiry on doctrinal discussions.

"Some persons possibly may be found to grieve over the conclusion to which this fresh investigation of the MS. has led, and be ready to charge with impiety the hands that have dishonoured their idols, Judges xviii. 24; but we candidly confess that we ourselves rejoice in any accumulation of evidence which inclines the balance to either side, and leaves no room for the exercise of doubt. Let us not, however, be mistaken in the ground of our satisfaction. We do not exult as polemics over the discomfiture of the advocates of the verse, now that they have lost the last prop of their external evidences; but as biblical students, we own ourselves heartily glad that not a shadow of reason at length remains, for halting between two opinions in our judgment of the spurious verse. We have always held as indisputable, that there is as serious damage done to the sacred oracles by the retention of doubtful Scriptures in the Inspired Volume, as by the exclusion of the true. In the book which we designate the Word of the Living God, reason is that we have not only the whole truth which He has in his great mercy committed to our keeping, but also nothing besides that truth. Christian integrity and safe criticism will avoid with like care the evils of a too easy admittance and a causeless detraction, in handling the text of Holy Writ."

After giving a careful notice of the various Oxford manuscripts consulted by him in making his collation, Dr. Dobbin incidentally makes a report as to the riches of the University in this department. He says that "in the Library of the University and in those of the several colleges there is probably the largest accumulation of unused MS. material in the world, not excepting the stores in Rome, Vienna, or Paris, and that both of a sacred and secular nature." He also assures the studious scholar that the most liberal access is given to these documents by the authorities of the place.

History of the Ottoman Turks, from the beginning of that Empire to the present time.

By E. S. Creasy, M.A. Vol. I. Bentley. SINCE old Knolles has been out of date, the great authority in all that relates to Turkish history is Von Hammer. The industrious German spent thirty years in preparing his work, drawing his materials not only from the sources open to his predecessors, but making use of abundant records, previously unexplored, both in Eastern literature and in the archives of Venice, Austria, and other states, which formerly had most intercourse with the Ottoman Empire. His long residence in the East, and his familiarity with the institutions and habits, as well as the literature of the Turks, give additional attractiveness and value to his volumes. From Von Hammer Professor Creasy professes himself indebted for the larger part of his materials, but he also

has made use of the authorities whose names we give in his own list, Montecuculi, Roe, Hanway, D'Hosson, Thornton, Ubicini, Porter, Marmont, Sir F. Smith, Chesney, Urquhart, Moltke, Hamel, Sismondi, Ranke, Finlay, and many others, not forgetting Knolles and Allix. He has also derived valuable aid from articles in the 'Quarterly' and 'Edinburgh Reviews,' and from a series of papers by the late Mr. Hulme, contributed to 'Blackwood's Magazine.' From such materials in the hands of a compiler and narrator like Professor Creasy, an authentic and interesting summary of Turkish history could not fail to be produced. His work will occupy two octavo volumes, of which the first brings the narrative down to the death of Amuratt IV., in 1640. The second will reach to the events of our own day. We quote one passage in which we read of the Turks being for the first time brought into collision with the Russians:

"In the middle of the sixteenth century, while the Ottoman Empire, then at the meridian of its glory, was the terror and admiration of the world, the Russian was slowly and painfully struggling out of the degradation and ruin with which it had been afflicted by two centuries and a half of Tartar conquest. The craft and courage of Ivan III. and Vasil Ivanovich had, between 1480 and 1533, emancipated Moscow from paying tribute to the Khans of Kipchak; and, by annexing other Russian principalities to that of Muscovy, these princes had formed an united Russia, which extended from Kief to Kasan, and as far as Siberia and Norwegian Lapland. Even thus early the Grand Dukes, or, as they began to style themselves, the Czars of Muscovy, seem to have cherished ambitious projects of reigning at Constantinople. Ivan III. sought out and married Sophia, the last princess of the Greek Imperial family, from which the conquering Ottomans had wrested Byzantium. From that time forth the two-headed eagle, which had been the imperial cognizance of the Emperors of Constantinople, has been assumed by the Russian sovereigns as their symbol of dominion. During the minority of Ivan the Terrible (who succeeded in 1533) a period of anarchy ensued in Russia, but on that Prince assuming the government, the vigour of the State was restored; the Khanates of Astrakhan and Kasan were conquered and finally annexed to Russia; the Don Cossacks were united with the empire, and Yermak, one of their chiefs, invaded and acquired for Ivan the vast regions of Siberia. The extent of Russia at Ivan's accession was 37,000 German square miles; at his death, it was 144,000. But so little was Russia then heeded or known in Western Europe, that the charter given by Philip and Mary to the first company of English merchants trading thither, purports to be granted 'upon the discovery of the said country; likening it to some region of savages which civilized man might then tread for the first time amid the American wilderness. Yet even at that period, those who watched the immense extent of the crude materials for warlike power, which the Czar of Muscovy possessed, the numbers, the rugged hardihood of his people, their implicit obedience to their autocrat, their endurance of privations, and the nature of the country so difficult for an invader, expressed their forebodings of the peril to which the independence of other states might be exposed by Muscovite ambition, if once those rude masses acquired the arms and the discipline of civilised war. It is melancholy to recognise in the fate of Poland and so many other countries the truth of the words used by the Polish king Sigismund, nearly three centuries ago, when, in remonstrating with England for supplying the Czar with military engineers and stores, he called him 'the Muscovite, the hereditary enemy of all free nations.'

"The Russians, at the time of Selim's accession, had been involved in fierce and frequent wars with the Sultan's vassals, the Crim Tartars; but the Porte had taken no part in these contests. But

the bold genius of the Vizier Sokolli now attempted the realisation of a project, which, if successful, would have barred the southern progress of Russia, by firmly planting the Ottoman power on the banks of the Don and the Volga, and along the shores of the Caspian Sea. The Turkish armies, in their invasions of Persia, had always suffered severely during their march along the sterile and mountainous regions of Upper Armenia and Mazerbijan. Some disputes with Persia had arisen soon after Selim's accession, which made a war with that kingdom seem probable: and Sokolli proposed to unite the rivers Don and Volga by a canal, and then send a Turkish armament up the Sea of Azoph and the Don, thence across by the intended channel to the Volga, and then down the latter river into the Caspian; from the southern shores of which sea the Ottomans might strike at Tabriz and the heart of the Persian power. Those two mighty rivers, the Don and the Volga, run towards each other, the one from the north-west, the other from the north-east, for many hundred leagues, until they are within thirty miles of junction. They then diverge; and the Don (the 'extremus Tanais' of the ancients), pours its waters into the Sea of Azoph, near the city of that name; the Volga blends with the Caspian, at a little distance from the city of Astrakhan, which is built on the principal branch of the Delta of that river. The project of uniting them by a canal is said to have been one entertained by Seleucus Nicator, one of the ablest of the successors of Alexander the Great. It was now revived by the Grand Vizier of Selim II.; and though the cloud of hostility with Persia passed over, Sokolli determined to persevere with the scheme: the immense commercial and political advantages of which, if completed, to the Ottoman empire, were evident to the old statesman of Solymn the Great. Azoph already belonged to the Turks, but in order to realize the great project entertained, it was necessary to occupy Astrakhan also. Accordingly, three thousand Janissaries and twenty thousand horse were sent to besiege Astrakhan, and a co-operative force of thirty thousand Tartars was ordered to join them, and to aid in making the canal. Five thousand Janissaries and three thousand pioneers were at the same time sent to Azoph to commence and secure the great work at its western extremity. But the generals of Ivan the Terrible did their duty to their stern master ably in this emergency. The Russian garrison of Astrakhan sallied on its besiegers, and repulsed them with considerable loss. And a Russian army, fifteen thousand strong, under Prince Serebinnoff, came suddenly on the workmen and Janissaries near Azoph, and put them to headlong flight. It was upon this occasion that the first trophies won from the Turks came into Russian hands. An army of Tartars, which marched to succour the Turks, was also entirely defeated by Ivan's forces; and the Ottomans, dispirited by their losses and reverses, withdrew altogether from the enterprise. Their Tartar allies, who knew that the close neighbourhood of the Turks would ensure their own entire subjection to the Sultan, eagerly promoted the distaste, which the Ottomans had acquired for Sokolli's project, by enlarging on the horrors of the climate of Muscovy, and especially on the peril, in which the short summer nights of those northern regions placed either the soul or the body of the true believer. As the Mahometan law requires the evening prayer to be said two hours after sunset, and the morning prayer to be repeated at the dawn of day, it was necessary that a Moslem should, in a night of only three hours long (according to the Tartars), either lose his natural rest, or violate the commands of his prophet. The Turks gladly re-embarked, and left the unpropitious soil; but a tempest assailed their flotilla on its homeward voyage, and only seven thousand of their whole force ever returned to Constantinople.

"Russia was yet far too weak to enter on a war of retaliation with the Turks. She had subdued the Tartar Khanates of Kasan and Astrakhan; but their kinsmen of the Crimea were still formidable enemies to the Russians, even without Turkish aid.

It was only two years after the Ottoman expedition to the Don and Volga, that the Khan of the Crimea made a victorious inroad into Russia, took Moscow by storm, and sacked the city (1571). The Czar Ivan had, in 1570, sent an ambassador, named Nossolito, to Constantinople, to complain of the Turkish attack on Astrakhan, and to propose that there should be peace, friendship, and alliance between the two empires. Nossolito, in addressing the Viziers, dwelt much on the toleration which his master showed to Mahometans in his dominions, as a proof that the Czar was no enemy to the faith of Islam. The Russian ambassador was favourably received at the Sublime Porte, and no further hostilities between the Turks and Russians took place for nearly a century."

There are foot-notes and illustrations throughout the work, and maps and plans which are chiefly taken from the Atlas prepared by M. Hallert, the French translator of Von Hammer. His history does not come beyond the treaty of Kainardji, in 1774. The first edition of Von Hammer, published at Pesth, consists of ten closely printed volumes. A translation, with a continuation of equal copiousness, says Mr. Creasy, would make up at least twenty volumes such as are usually printed in this country. An abridged edition, omitting the notes and observations, appeared in four volumes. The size of the work has hitherto prevented its being translated, and it is well that in Professor Creasy's history some of the valuable matter of Von Hammer will be presented to English readers.

The Anvār-i Suhaili; or, the Lights of Canopus: being the Persian Version of the Fables of Pilpay. Literally translated into Prose and Verse, by Edward B. Eastwick, F.R.S., Professor of Oriental Languages at Haileybury College. Hertford: Stephen Austin.

Of the *Anvār-i Suhaili*, the Persian version of the Indian fables of Pilpay, some portions have, at various times, been translated. But the work is now for the first time in its completeness presented to English readers. It was in the reign of Nūshīrwān, surnamed the Just, the Chosroës of western historians, that the original work of the Brahman Bidpai, or Pilpay, was first translated into the Pahlavi dialect, then the language of the Persian Court. That work was lost during the Arab conquests, but more than one version was subsequently made, and the fame of Pilpay's fables continued to spread. At length, about the year 1105 of our era, Husain Vā'iz undertook a new version, which could scarcely be called a translation, as he added much new matter, illustrating the Indian maxims and fables by Persian stories and verses. He called his work '*Anvār-i Suhaili*; or, the *Lights of Canopus*,' in compliment to Abul Ghazi, the prince by whom he was patronised, one of whose titles was Suhaili, the Persian name for the star called by us Canopus. Many of Pilpay's fables are identical with those in the '*Hitopadesha*,' or '*Salutary Counsels*' of Vishnu Sharman, and in another ancient book of the Hindus, the '*Pancha-tantra*.' But Husain Vā'iz made free use of the materials at his disposal, the Indian fables being entirely overlaid with matter adapted to the Persian readers for whom it was compiled. Professor Eastwick gives the following description of the style of Husain Vā'iz:—

"Those very characteristics of style, which form its chiefest beauties in the eye of Persian taste, will appear to the European reader as ridiculous blemishes. The undeviating equipoise of bi-pro-

sitional sentences, and oftentimes their length and intricacy; the hyperbole and sameness of metaphor, and the rudeness and unskilfulness of the plots of some of the stories, cannot but be wearisome and repulsive to the better and simpler judgment of the West. Kings always sit on thrones stable as the firmament, rub the stars with their heads, have all other kings to serve them, and are most just, wise, valiant, and beneficent. Ministers are invariably gifted with intellects which adorn the whole world, and are so sagacious that they can unravel all difficulties with a single thought. Mountains constantly race with the sun in height, all gardens are the envy of Paradise, and every constellation in Heaven is scared away in turn by some furious tiger or lion upon earth. These absurdities are so prominent that they would probably induce the generality of readers to close the book in disgust. Those, however, who have patience enough to proceed with the perusal will not fail to discover many beautiful thoughts, many striking and original ideas forcibly expressed; and though their first beauty cannot but have suffered very considerably in translation, still enough will remain to justify, in some degree, to all candid judges, the celebrity of the work."

A detailed analysis of the work is then given, with notices of the chief contents. The whole work consists of an elaborate Preface and Introduction, by Husain Vā'iz, and of fourteen separate books, with a brief conclusion. The Preface is a very vague and diffuse composition, which the translator characterizes as—

"A turgid specimen of the obscure and repulsive preludes with which Persian writers think fit to commence their compositions. A few helpless infantine ideas struggle in the gigantic coils of an endless prolixity and verbosity, which it would require a Hercules to disentangle. Nevertheless, this Preface may be read by those who wish for a model of such compositions in Persian. The arrangement is the same in all. There is, first, an address to the One God; secondly, a lengthy eulogy of his Prophet, Muhammad; thirdly, a panegyric on the High Personage to whom the work is dedicated, with a meagre explanation of the reasons which induced the author to commence his undertaking. The whole is thickly larded with quotations from the Kur'ān, and with difficult and unusual words; so that it would really seem as if a preface were intended, like a thorny hedge, to repel all intruders, and to preserve the fruit within from the prying eyes of readers."

"In the Introduction, Husain Vā'iz is at once simpler and more agreeable. The description of the Bees and their habits is prettily given. The story of the Pigeon, who left his quiet home to travel; and of the old woman's Cat, who was discontented with his meagre fare and safe seclusion, are among the happiest in the whole work."

In the analysis of the fourteen books Professor Eastwick points out how far the matter is original, and how far derived from Bidpai, or from other Sanskrit sources. After giving this examination in detail, the author remarks:—

"It will be seen, from the comparison which has been made, that the first Seven books, forming rather more than two-thirds of the whole work, have been in a greater or less degree borrowed from the Sanskrit, and chiefly from the '*Pancha-tantra*.' It is also from the '*Pancha-tantra*' that translations have been made into most of the vernacular dialects of India, such as Gujarāthī, Marāthī, Braj-Bhāshā, Bengālī, &c. It may be here remarked that the '*Pancha-tantra*' has been generally supposed to be of an age anterior to the '*Hitopadesha*.' Of course the question does not admit of proof; but on perusing the former book immediately after the latter, it would seem that the '*Hitopadesha*' is the older of the two, as well from the style as from the greater amplification of the subjects in the '*Pancha-tantra*.' Be that, however, as it may, it is quite clear that the larger portion of the '*Anvār-i Suhaili*' has been borrowed

from one or other of these Sanskrit works, and it is unnecessary to proceed to isolated expressions or general reasons for establishing the identity. At the same time it must be acknowledged that many of the stories which are of purely Persian origin, though somewhat different in character, are in no degree inferior to those taken from the Sanskrit. Thus the story of 'the Gardener and the Nightingale,' the Nineteenth of the First book; that of 'the Painter and his Mistress,' the Seventh of the Second book; of 'the Thief and the Monkey,' the Second of the Fifth book; of 'the Farmer's Wife,' the Second of the Seventh book; and of 'the Farmer and the Purse of Gold,' in the Fourteenth book, are equal to any of the stories in the '*Hitopadesha*' or '*Pancha-tantra*.'"

Most of the fables are too long for quotation. The following we quote not as one of the best, but as one of the shortest. It is the fable of the Raven and the Serpent; or, Artifice better than Force:—

"A Raven had taken up its abode on the side of a mountain, and had made its nest in the fissure of a rock, and in the vicinity of it was the hole of a Snake, the water of whose mouth was deadly poison and the locality of death, and the venom of the roots of whose teeth was destructive to the constitution of existence and life. Whenever the Raven had young, the Serpent devoured them, and consumed the liver of the Raven with the brand of the loss of her offspring. When the cruelty of the Serpent had passed all bounds, the Raven, reduced to despair, made complaint of her plight to a jackal who was her friend, and said, 'I am thinking how I can deliver myself from the calamity of this Snake and the affliction of this life-pursuing tyrant.' The jackal asked, 'What steps wilt thou take in this emergency? and by what artifice wilt thou get rid of his annoyance?' The Raven said, 'I intend, when the Snake is asleep, to peck out with my blood-drinking beak the eyes with which he surveys the world, that he may not be again able to attack those that are the lustre of my eyes; and that my offspring, the light of my vision, may remain secure from the wickedness of that malignant one.' The jackal said, 'This plan swerves from the right course, for wise men ought to attack their enemy in such a manner that there may be no peril of losing their life by it. Take care that thou abandonest this thought, that thou mayest not destroy thyself like the Heron who exerted himself for the destruction of the Crab, and gave his own dear life to the winds.' The Raven asked, 'How was that?'"

The jackal then relates the story of the Heron and the Crab, the fables throughout the book being thus interwoven with one another, and, after showing, from the fate of the heron, that "they who contrive mischief to others often bring themselves into peril," the jackal gives the following advice to the raven, as to how to deal with the serpent:—

"The jackal said, 'The advisable course is this, that thou shouldst soar aloft in air and cast thine eyes on the terraces of the houses and plains, and wherever thou beholdest an ornament which it is possible to carry, there stoop and snatch it up, and fly through the air in such a way as to be visible to men's eyes, and there is no doubt that some persons will follow thee to recover the ornament. When thou drawest near to the Serpent cast the ornament upon it, so that when the eyes of those men light upon him they may release him from the bonds of life, and then recover the ornament. And thy heart will be freed from care without any exertions on thy own part.' The Raven, in accordance with the suggestion of the jackal, turned towards an inhabited place. Presently it saw a woman who had put down an ornament on the corner of a terrace, and was herself occupied with her ablutions. The Raven carried off the ornament, and in the same manner as the jackal had said, threw it on the Serpent. The men who had come in pursuit of the Raven forthwith crushed the Serpent's head, and the Raven was set free [from its foe]."

Most of the fables are densely strewn with poetical quotations, and metrical proverbs and sayings, as in the story of the Ringdoves, or the Advantage of the United Action of Friends. Without giving more than a fragment of a story, the poetical quotations on friendship appear in the following extract, in which also are displayed some of the religious and moral lessons inculcated in the work:—

"Zirak (a mouse) replied, 'O Ring-dove! be of good cheer, for every garment that the habit-maker of the Divine Will prepares for the person of any individual attendant of the court of God's worship, whether its collar be adorned with the button of wealth, or its skirt worked with the border of distress, is indubitably a pure favour and absolute beneficence. And the climax of this bounty is that the creature remains ignorant of its nature, nor sees the reconditio mercy involved in it, and with reference to this they have said,

COUPLET.

Lees, or pure, to thee 'tis nothing, thou hast drunk the
beverage up,
All the Filler gives is kindness, with whate'er He fill the
cup.

And if thou dost well consider it, what has befallen thee was for thy good; and the wise have said, 'The pure honey is not found without the cruel sting, nor does the rose of joy grow up without the thorn of trouble.'

HEMISTICH.

Full many a wish in disappointment lies.

And when Zirak had finished this discourse and began to busy himself in severing the meshes which confined Ring-dove, the latter exclaimed, 'Kind friend! first undo the fetters of my companions, and after thou hast satisfied thyself of their release, come to me.' The Mouse, paying no attention to these words, went on with his work. Ring-dove said again, and with greater emphasis, 'O Zirak! if thou desirest to please me and act true to thy obligations as a friend, it is requisite for thee first to release my friends, and by this favour thou wilt place the chain of obligation on my neck.' The Mouse answered, 'Thou hast reiterated this remark, and hast laid excessive stress upon it. But carest thou not for thine own life? and dost thou not admit the duty of self-preservation, or neglectest thou the maxim, 'Begin with thine own self'?' Ring-dove replied, 'Thou shouldst not reproach me, for they have written out for my name the diploma of the chieftainship of these pigeons, and I have made myself responsible for superintending their affairs. Inasmuch as they are my subjects, they have just claims upon me, and I too have claims upon them, because I am their prince, and now that they have faithfully discharged their duty to me, and that by their aid and assistance I have escaped from the hands of the fowler, I too ought to acquit myself of the duties which belong to me, and perform the functions of a leader; and every king who seeks his own ease, and leaves his people entangled in the bonds of trouble, it will not be long before the draught of his happiness is discoloured, and the eye of his fortune darkened.

COUPLET.

In thy dominions will be rest for none,
If thou shouldst seek for thine own ease alone."

"The Mouse answered, 'The king is to his people what life is to the frame, or the heart to the body; wherefore, the first thing will be to take care of his condition, since, if the heart is whole, there cannot result so much detriment from the ill-state of the members, but if—which God forbid!—the heart be injured, the safety of the limbs is of no use whatever.

COUPLET.

What harm though servants be diminished,
If a hair fall not from the monarch's head.

"Ring-dove rejoined, 'I fear lest, if thou shouldst begin to remove my bonds, thou mightest become weary, and some of my companions might be left imprisoned; while, as long as I am bound, though thou be utterly tired, thou wilt not forsake me, nor will thy feelings suffer thee to neglect to set me free, and, moreover, we have been partners in

calamity, and honour demands that our release and freedom too should be simultaneous.

VERSE.

Dost boast of friends? then boast his friendship, who
Acts like a friend in joy and sorrow too,
They who in joy alone their friendship show,
Speak not of them, they but augment thy woe."

"The Mouse answered, 'This is the custom of the magnanimous and the fundamental principle of the generous; and by this laudable disposition and amiable temperament, the confidence of people in thy friendship becomes more unclouded, and the reliance of thy subjects on thy beneficence and high-mindedness is increased.

COUPLET.

Thy hopes of friendship on the man devolve,
Who can things adverse and entangled solve."

"Then Zirak, with the utmost energy and ineffable zeal, severed the meshes of Ring-dove's companions, and, last of all, released the neck of Ring-dove himself from the chain of calamity. The pigeons bade him farewell, and, safe and secure, returned to their own nests, and the Mouse retreated into his hole. When the Crow beheld the Mouse's assistance, and how he undid the meshes, he longed to secure his friendship and alliance, and viewing his fidelity and fraternity as a rare blessing, said to himself, 'I can never be secure from the adventure which befel the pigeons, and, consequently, I can never be indifferent to the friendship of such a person as this, who renders help in adversity.

VERSE.

Of mere companions both the east and west
Are full; but those one really wants, are few,
Many hang round thee from self-interest,
To those who help, the name of 'friend' is due."

Some of the scattered flowers of Persian poetry we give, as translated by the author:—

BOASTING.

"Boasts will not pillow thee where great men sit,
Wouldst thou have greatness, greatly strive for it.

THE GREED OF GAIN.

"Tis greed that doth enmesh all living: greed
That makes us follow most unrighteous gain;
Greed robs all creatures of the rest they need,
And steepers their beings in perpetual pain.

FIRMNESS.

"Strive to be resolute: half measures shun;
For from weak doubts a hundred dangers rise,
A firm mind mirrors clear what's to be done,
But troubled waters cheat the gazer's eyes.

PROMISE BREAKING.

"Man's promise is the root, himself the tree,
The root with carefulness must cherished be,
A broken promise is a rotten root,
Struck from the list of gracious trees its shoot.
Unfaithful dealing is an idiot's act,
The pious keep their oaths and guard their pact.

PRIZE WHAT THOU HAST WON.

"Prize high a wished-for object, when 'tis won;
Nor let it slip, lest thou shouldst feel regret.
Full many a spendthrift, when his gold is done,
Must under want's stern trial, cashless, fret,
For by-gone treasures back shall ne'er return,
Though clothes be rent and heart with anguish burn.

PRAYER.

"The man whose heart is moderate and pure,
His prayer will reach the All-Glorious One, he sure,
Rapt from himself, the prayer is not his own:
The prayer he utters is from God alone:
Vain is the creature, but the prayer is true;
Divine the prayer, and the acceptance too.

PATIENCE AND HASTE.

"Hurry and rashness from the devil spring,
But patience, meekness, are from Heaven's King.
See from God's hand creation slow arise,
And six days' labour claimed by earth and skies.
Else with two letters He possessed the night,
Sudden to make new worlds upstart to light,
Lo! in this course instruction to us sent!
'Use patience, for with it success is lent.'

A GOOD WIFE.

"A modest, chaste, and an obedient wife,
Lifts her poor husband to a knightly throne:
What though the livelong day with toils be rife,
The solace of his cares at night's his own,
If she be modest and her words be kind,
Mark not her beauty, or her want of grace;
The fairest woman, if deformed in mind,
Will in thy heart's affections find no place:
Dazzling as Eden's beauties to the eye,
In outward form; foul is her face within.
Better in dungeon, bound with chains, to lie,
Than mark at home a wife of frowning mien.
Better bare feet than pinching shoes. The woes
Of travel are less hard than boils at home.
Contentment's door upon that mansion close,
Whence wrangling women's high-pitched voices come.

DANGERS OF THE WORLD.

"The world's not worth the raising one emotion
Of sorrow in a single heart. Beware
Ill acts! which wise men shun with care.
The world is like a deep and troubled ocean,
Peopled with monsters ravening for their prey,
Who keep the shore, the wise, the blest are they.

THE DIVINE RULER.

"O object of the musings of the wise!
Desire of the hearts of all in prayerful posture bowing!
The slave's, the monarch's, destinies
Are willed by Thee. Fortune's gifts are enough save
thy endowing;
Unless Thy wisdom and Thy guidance lead,
Who can this road by reason's light proceed?"

After these specimens we need not say that the reader who has patience to search amidst the voluminous pages of Husain Vā'iz will find instruction and entertainment. Let the testimony of Sir William Jones suffice, as a commendation of the work for general perusal. In the preface to his 'Persian Grammar' he says, 'The fables of Vishnu Sharman, whom we ridiculously call Pilpay, are the most beautiful, if not the most ancient, apoloques in the world; and elsewhere he says of the 'Anvār-i Suhaili,' "The most excellent book in the language is, in my opinion, the collection of fables called 'Anvār-i Suhaili,' by Husain Vā'iz, surnamed Kāshifi, who took the celebrated work of Bidpai or Pilpay for his text, and has comprised all the wisdom of the Eastern nations in fourteen beautiful chapters."

Of previous English versions of particular parts of the work, and of the different translations in foreign languages, an account is given, by Professor Eastwick, in his Preface, chiefly taken from the Baron de Sacy's 'Mémoire Historique,' prefixed to his edition of 'Kalita et Dinna.' In the present translation, while the spirit of the original is sufficiently retained for the gratification of the general reader, its literalness renders it most useful for the student. Candidates for interpretships in India are required to read the 'Anvār-i Suhaili,' after the Gulistan of Saadi. With the aid of this literal version the student may make progress in Persian, which it would be difficult otherwise to accomplish without a good master or a moonshee, an advantage not always to be had even in India. For learning the language the book is admirably adapted, from the perpetual variety of style, both in formal narrative and familiar dialogue. Great learning and ingenuity are displayed by Professor Eastwick in rendering the work into English, notwithstanding the occasional difficulty of finding words and phrases to express ideas and allusions wholly Oriental. The labour bestowed on the poetical quotations, amounting to between five and six thousand verses, also deserves high commendation. In this matter the additional toil involved, in finding metre and rhyme, might have been spared, but, since the author has taken that trouble, let the reader be grateful. The style in which the work is published is most creditable to Mr. Austin, the director of the press at Hertford. The volume altogether is an important contribution to Oriental literature.

It has been lately announced that the East India College, at Hileybury, is to be suppressed. How far financial considerations have been taken into account by the Court of Directors, or whether they have considered only the benefit of the public service, we are not aware. One incidental advantage of a removal of the College to Oxford, which is proposed, will be that the learned men connected with the College will have greater facilities for studying and consulting the rich stores of Oriental literature in the libraries of the University.

NOTICES.

Travel Thoughts and Travel Fancies. By Henry Strickland. John W. Parker and Son.

MR. STRICKLAND'S book consists of extracts from familiar despatches to friends at home during an ordinary continental tour. In description or narrative there is nothing new, but the off-hand style, and occasional reflections and observations such as those which we subjoin, give some character to the volume, and render it readable, in spite of the triteness of the subject, and the nonsense of the bulk of the author's thoughts and fancies:—

"Wednesday, June 2.—Returned to Brussels. Name, Strickland, puzzles passport officials—fact is, it is a thorough Teutonic, angular, rough, sharp-cornered word full of difficulty, but which a Teuton has energy to tackle—not so a Celt. So what does he do, when he encounters such a word? Why he rounds off the corners, shaves off the knobs, smooths all unevennesses, and then—and not till then—ventures to put it in his mouth. Crossing boundary between France and Belgium, a besworded, bebut-toned, bebelled official takes all passports, and in half-an-hour returns them by calling names over. Waited some time, at last heard, 'Monsieur Steek!'—well done! thou unshaved Gaul—better pronounced than usual—'Voici, c'est à moi,' I said—and mine it was sure enough. Moral.—Dropping the consonants in a language signifies want of energy, and imbecility in the national character." Wordsworth being quoted, the author prefixes the epithet 'prosy,' and justifies the irreverence thus: "The reason I call Wordsworth prosy is this—he is prosy. And the reason he is prosy is this—he is not human enough. If I were a tree, I should 'ove' Wordsworth; if I were a mountain, I should adore him; if I were a daisy or a buttercup, I should worship him; but as I am a man, I want to read (if I read at all) about men, and what they do, and say, and think, and feel—so I'll read Shakespeare, please, if I read anything."

Manual of Civil Law, for the Use of Schools. Consisting of an Epitome in English of the Institutes of Justinian. By E. R. Humphreys, LL.D., Head-Master of Cheltenham Grammar School. Longman and Co.

DR. HUMPHREYS has prepared this manual chiefly for the use of candidates for the civil service, but it contains information for all who aspire to a liberal education. As a general knowledge of church history, or of medicine, and other departments, is not unsuitable to others besides professional students, so a knowledge of the principles of law ought to be possessed by every well-educated man. We allow the compiler of this manual to state, in his own words, the objects and advantages of the studies to which it forms a concise and clear summary. "The Civil Law is the foundation of the jurisprudence of all modern European nations; it constitutes, together with the old feudal law, the basis of the Common Law of England; of the law of Scotland it forms a still larger ingredient; and of the practice of our Courts of Chancery, which adjudicate questions of a nature that could not have arisen under the feudal law, it may be regarded principally, if not exclusively, as the foundation and precedent. It is also a monument of the wisdom and justice of the most powerful nation of antiquity, neither less worthy of attention, nor less pervading in its influences, than the reliques of their fine arts; and it is of peculiar importance to the classical scholar, as being necessary to illustrate the meaning of many passages, more particularly in the Latin authors, where the allusions to legal questions and usages, and the instances of legal phraseology are far more numerous than may be generally supposed by students unacquainted with the Roman laws. * * * It must appear to us an additional inducement to this study that even some passages of Scripture, in the writings of St. Paul especially, admit of satisfactory illustration from the same source. If the knowledge of this subject be so useful and interesting to the general scholar, it must be a still more important and valuable acquisition to all who intend to prepare themselves for the legal profession; because the Roman law,

even though its provisions and enactments may not have the direct 'force of law' in our courts, contains what may be regarded as the history and antiquities of the science." Questions at the close of each chapter, and a copious glossary of Latin phrases employed in the technical nomenclature of the Civil Law, add to the usefulness of the volume.

Political Sketches. Twelve Chapters on the Struggles of the Age. By Carl Retslag, Ph.D., late Professor of Philosophy in the University of Rostock. Theobald.

In the present unsettled state of political affairs, those who desire to know the real condition of the continental nations, and especially of Germany, will find valuable information in these lectures of Professor Retslag. Although we may not assent to all the arguments, nor agree with the political principles of the author, we have confidence in the fidelity of his statements and the sincerity of his opinions. The remarks on the best means of opposing the aggressive policy of Russia will be read with interest at this time. On many subjects of continental politics much historical knowledge and sound philosophy are brought to bear. The literary composition of the book is very creditable to a foreigner whose acquaintance with our language only dates from April, 1852, when political events drove him to our shores.

The British Almanac of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, for 1855. Knight and Co. THE 'British Almanac,' with its useful 'Companion,' or year-book of general information, sustains its superiority over all compilations of the class. While the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge has been superseded in its general literary labours by the enterprise, both public and private, which it chiefly called into play, we are annually reminded of its corporate existence by the appearance of the Almanac, which has reached its twenty-eighth year. The 'Companion to the Almanac for 1855,' contains papers on chemistry, geography, and various branches of science; with abundant statistical information on population, property, trade, and an abstract of the American census of 1850; abstracts of the legislation and public events of the session 1853-54; and miscellaneous notices, historical, biographical, and necrological. The volume concludes with a summary of the chief events of the war down to the date of publication.

A Third Gallery of Portraits. By George Gilfillan. Edinburgh: Hogg. London: Groombridge.

OF all writers of the present day Mr. Gilfillan is the most uncertain and irregular. Sometimes he delights the reader by his fervid eloquence and shrewd remarks, but just as often he revolts both judgment and taste by his eccentricity and folly. Knowing Mr. Gilfillan well as an author, we respect his genius, and make allowance for his eccentricities, but what is a stranger to think of a man who in the volume before us says of the speeches of Demosthenes that "they are morsels as dry and sapless as any we ever tried to swallow," that "they have a good deal of pithy statement, and some striking questions and apostrophes, but they have no imagery, no depth of thought, no grasp, no grandeur, no genius!" For one who speaks with so much authority on literary subjects it is a strange admission to make that he had only last year met for the first time with Addison's 'Freeholder,' and "assuring his readers that some of the most delectable tid-bits of Addison are therein contained." Mr. Gilfillan's reading must have been ill directed, when he only now first hears of the Tory Foxhunter, one of the classic portraits in English literature. However, in spite of many things to cause surprise or to give offence, the reader of this volume will find much interesting and instructive matter, and he will enjoy the energetic and independent style of the author's thoughts and language. Among the illustrious portraits in the Gallery are Mirabeau, Robespierre, Danton, Murat, Vergniaud, Napoleon, under the head of French Revolutionists; Edward Irving, Robert Hall,

Isaac Taylor, Chalmers, of sacred writers; Hazlitt, Hallam, Jeffrey, Coleridge, Thackeray, Macaulay, of modern critics; and among many miscellaneous names we may mention Carlyle, Emerson, Disraeli, Wilson, Bulwer, and Gilfillan's greatest of all idols, Edmund Burke. Most, if not all, of the sketches have already appeared in periodical literature. As now collected they form a volume of most interesting reading.

The Collected Works of Dugald Stewart. Edited by Sir William Hamilton, Bart. Vol. IV. Constable and Co.

THIS volume of Sir William Hamilton's edition of Dugald Stewart's works contains the Second Part of the 'Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind,' which had before only appeared in the large quarto form. It was published in 1826, at the long interval of thirty-four years after the first part of the work had appeared. Volume fifth of this edition will contain the 'Philosophical Essays,' and the sixth and seventh volumes the 'Inquiries into the Active and Moral Powers of Man.' As the work proceeds, we are more and more pleased with the judicious way in which the work is edited by Sir William Hamilton, whose notes are few but acceptable. In all that relates to the external appearance of this edition, the publishers are doing ample justice to a work which will be a standard addition to our philosophical literature.

A Treatise on Greek Tragic Metres, with the Choric Parts of Sophocles metrically arranged. By the Rev. W. Linwood, M.A. Longman and Co.

WE hardly agree with the learned author of this volume when he says that the subject of Greek metres is unduly neglected in classical education. The subject obtains in our public schools and in the university studies quite as much attention as it deserves, either as an aid to mental discipline, or as a branch of classical knowledge. But we admire the author's enthusiasm in his subject, and it is well for the few who desire thoroughly to understand and enjoy the grand compositions of the Greek tragic poets, that an intelligent and ingenious expositor of ancient metrical art has prepared this volume. The work displays accurate knowledge of the tragic writers, and affords full information as to the metre of this poem, and especially the form and structure of the choruses.

SUMMARY.

First Steps in Economic Botany, for the use of Students, being an Abridgment of Popular Economic Botany, by Thomas Croxton Archer (Reeve). MR. ARCHER'S larger work has been approved by the heads of the Department of Science and Art, and at their suggestion this abridgment has been undertaken with a view of making the subject available, in the cheap form of a school-book, to pupils of all classes. The work gives useful information as to the origin and nature of all the chief vegetable materials which form the objects of commercial enterprise and manufacturing industry.

In Chapman's Quarterly Series of Theological Books appears *A Sketch of the Rise and Progress of Christianity*, by Robert William Mackay, M.A., author of 'The Progress of Intellect, as exemplified in the Religious Development of the Greeks and Hebrews' (John Chapman). The book contains many truthful historical statements; but the spirit of the writer can only awaken pity when he describes the Christianity of the present day as a "drivelling, feeble, desultory thing; a distorted burlesque of the original, exhibiting itself chiefly in Sabbatarian absurdities and a crazy infatuation about the prophecies." However far the Christian Church may be from the divine ideal of the New Testament, it is to the living spirit of Christianity that we owe the wonderful works of charity and philanthropy, as well as the diffusion of education, and all that marks the superiority of the present over former periods of our country's history. A treatise on *The Concessions of St. Paul, and the Claims of the Truth*, translated from the French of Count Agénor de Gasparin (Constable and Co.), is a worthy companion volume to the author's former

work on 'The Schools of Doubt, and the Schools of Faith.'

Part Second of *Scripture History*, for the use of young persons, by Catherine Irene Finch (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.), comprises the period from the building of Solomon's Temple to the end of the Old Testament. The book is chiefly compiled from the sacred records themselves; but the writer has collected with diligence, and selected with judgment, much miscellaneous matter from the works of Lowth, Gray, Prideaux, Jahn, and Kitto, in illustration of the writings of the Old Testament, and of the history and customs of the Jewish nation.

The all-absorbing topic of the siege of Sebastopol has suggested the publication of a narrative of *Remarkable Sieges*, from that of Constantinople in 1453, by Henry Otley (H. Ingram and Co.). Among the famous sieges here described are those of Rhodes, Vienna, Antwerp, Lille, Gibraltar, and St. Sebastian. The narratives originally appeared in the 'Illustrated London News.'

Under the form of an attractive story, *The Castle-Builders; or, The Deferred Confirmation*, by the author of the 'Heir of Redcliffe,' (J. and C. Mozley), various truths of morality and religion are conveyed. Although there is little objectionable in the doctrinal part of the book, yet the tendency of a tale expressly on the subject of confirmation may be to induce young people to think more of the outward rites and events of the Christian church than of the inward growth and development of the Christian life. But perhaps our remark applies less to such a book as this than to the general way in which preparation is made for the rite of confirmation, and the light in which the ordinance itself is viewed. So far as the outward body of religion is concerned, the writer of this tale earnestly warns young girls against "the foolish, undesirable ways of other people of their own age," including dancing, and teaches them that grace is certainly communicated in baptism and confirmation.

Of the *Battle of the Alma*, a metrical narrative is published by an officer (Hatchard), in which the leading incidents of the day are described. The chief merit of the book consists in the notes, containing selections from despatches and other printed accounts of the battle, a list of the killed and wounded, and biographical notices of the most distinguished officers in command. The same theme has been taken up by the author of a collection of poems, entitled *Epullia*, by the author of 'Melanter,' who also sings a lay of the Fleet in the Black Sea (Hope and Co.). *Poetical Romances and Ballads*, by Robert Villiers Sankey, Esq. (Hope and Co.), have as much poetical merit as could be expected in a youthful writer, who published his verses "at the earnest solicitation of friends." *Poems*, by William Stephen Sandes (Longman and Co.), are to be commended more for their sensible and moral tone than for their poetical spirit.

In Murray's Railway Reading, a new edition, the twenty-fourth, appears of *The Rejected Address*, by James Smith and Horace Smith. The copyright of this popular work, "one of the luckiest hits in literature," having recently expired, and more than one announcement of reprinting having been made, the publisher has wisely brought out this edition in a form and at a price which will exclude any successful rivalry. It contains the authors' latest corrections, notes, and illustrations, with extracts from reviews and notices of the work, and the prefaces and advertisements to former editions. In the same series of Railway Reading (Murray), a fourth edition is published of *Notes from Life*, by Henry Taylor, author of 'Philip Von Artevelde.'

A series of papers is reprinted from *The British Controversialist*, 'The Elements of Rhetoric,' a manual of the laws of taste, including the theory and practice of composition, by Samuel Neil (Walton and Maberly). It is a companion volume to 'An Elementary Treatise on Logic,' both of the manuals containing much useful and instructive matter in a form well adapted for popular study.

The recently published volume, the sixth, of the *Histoire de la Revolution Française*, by M. Louis Blanc (Langlois et Leclercq, Paris), embraces the period when Robespierre was in the zenith of his power, after the overthrow of the Girondins. The reported speeches in the National Assembly, and other documents quoted by M. Louis Blanc, furnish instructive commentaries on the history of that time. His strictures on Michelet and other historians of the revolution are in many points just, and his account of the commencement of the war with England throws light on questions which have been lately discussed in various works in England.

Reprinted from 'Blackwood's Magazine,' is the story of *The Quiet Heart*, a tale of Scottish life, by the author of 'Katie Stewart' (Blackwood and Sons).

A Lecture on the *Relative Importance of Subjects taught in Elementary Schools*, by Joshua Fitch, Vice-Principal of the Normal College, Borough-road (Partridge and Oakley), contains hints and suggestions worthy of the attention of teachers and of all who are interested in the training of the young.

In a letter on *Calvin and Channing*, addressed to the subscribers of the 'Encyclopedia Britannica,' by John Gordon (Whitfield), objections are made to some of the statements and opinions presented in the articles under those heads in the new edition of that work. Mr. Gordon's religious views differ from those of the writer of the articles, and he maintains that the Encyclopedia in its theological department is employed for Sectarian objects.

Under the title of *Logic for the Young*, twenty-five lessons on the art of reasoning are selected from the logic of Dr. Isaac Watts, by the author of 'Logic for the Million,' (Longman and Co.) Dr. Watts's book has long been a standard and favourite treatise, and this abridgement will be found useful as a manual of instruction for the young in the technical part of 'the art of reasoning.'

Chaucer's poem, *The Flower and the Leaf*, is translated into English by the Chevalier de Chatelain (Jeffs), who is one of the most skilful and voluminous writers in the department of translation in our time. He has introduced to his countrymen many choice works of English poets, and some of them in a style which will bring no discredit to the originals. In the case of Chaucer, the matter is given, but the manner is not imitable in a modern version in a foreign language.

A new edition, the third, is published of a *Narrative of the Life and Travels of Sergeant Butler* written by himself (Johnstone and Hunter), containing a record of the services of an old soldier chiefly in the East, and his experience of life, written in a simple and pious strain, calculated at once to be useful and entertaining to youthful readers. The book was first published thirty years ago, but the worthy writer is still alive, and acts as Superintending Sergeant of Pensioners in one of the lowland districts in Scotland.

In the seventh volume of the cheap edition of Lord Mahon's *History of England* (Murray), the author has revised the text, and availed himself of the most recent works that throw light on the narrative. Some additional facts and illustrations have been supplied by Lord John Russell's 'Memorials of Fox,' "a publication," says Lord Mahon, "of essential value to history."

Under the title of the *Anti-Sabbatarian Defenceless* (Robertson, Glasgow; Nisbet and Co., London), by the Rev. J. G. Stewart, objections to the strict system of keeping the day are examined, and the author's views of the subject fully stated.

A pleasantly told tale, by Leitch Ritchie, *Weary-foot Common* (Bogue), presents many striking sketches of life and character. The book has six illustrations.

Selected from the writings of Archbishop Whately are *Detached Thoughts and Aphorisms* (Blackader and Co.), chiefly on the 'love of truth in religious inquiry.' Archbishop Whately's 'Thoughts' are also given on a variety of subjects, under the heads of 'The Moral Faculty,' 'Faith and Spiritual Guidance,' 'The Appeal of Christian Truth to the

Affections.' The compilation is made with the permission, but not under the superintendence of the author of the works from which the extracts are taken.

A translation into German verse, of *Ten Scottish Songs*, and other pieces, is made by W. B. MacDonald (Lizars, Edinburgh; Highley, London). The metres of the original are as far as possible imitated, as well as the words literally translated.

A review of the past history of the Jewish nation, and speculations as to their probable destiny, are contained in a little treatise, *Israel in the World; or, the Mission of the Hebrews to the great Military Monarchies*, by the Rev. William Henry Johnstone, M.A., Chaplain of Addistoun (J. F. Shaw). The book contains an interesting historical summary; and the author in describing the existing state of the Jewish people anticipates their playing an important part in the future drama of the world, when restored to their own land.

An essay on *English Education*, by Angus Macpherson (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., London; Robertson, Glasgow), contains remarks deserving the attention of parents and teachers.

In the *Trapper's Bride*, the *White Stone Canal*, and other Tales, by Percy B. St. John (Ward and Lock), now published in a cheap form, the reader will find many legends of Indian life embodied in tales written by one who entered thoroughly into the spirit of the scenes among which he wandered and mused. By the same publishers (Ward and Lock) is printed *Sharp Eye; or, the Scout's Revenge*, by James Weir, a tale of the early days of American Independence; and *Students Abroad*, their romance and real life, by Richard Kimball.

Reprinted from the 'Church of England Magazine,' where they appeared in a consecutive form through the ecclesiastical year, are *Hymns for the Sundays and Holidays in the Year*, by Joseph Fearn (Joseph Hughes). The candid confession of the author that he has striven, not so much to create a poetic effect as to promote spiritual edification, renders critical remarks needless. *Baptismal Regeneration Refuted*, by Joseph Dumbull, Ph.D. (Nisbett and Co.) Many sermons are published in connexion with the Patriotic Fund, among which we may specify one by the Rev. Dr. Candlish, *Security in the Midst of Danger*, a discourse on the ninety-first Psalm, delivered on the occasion of the ordination of the Rev. R. B. Watson, as a chaplain to the forces in the East (Johnstone and Hunter). *The Widow and the Fatherless*, an appeal on behalf of the Patriotic Fund, by the Rev. W. Clugston, M.A., Forfar (Johnstone and Hunter). *Suspense*, a sermon preached at St. Mary's, Hornsey, by Rev. Richard Harvey, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen (Groombridge and Son.) A tale for young readers, *Alice Nugent; or, Seed for Coming Days* (Hope and Co.), contains useful truths, and is written in an agreeable style. A pleasing little story, *The Water Lily*, by Harriet Myrtle, with illustrations by Hablot Browne, may be added to the list of juvenile Christmas present-books.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Aytoun's Lays, 8th edition, fcap., cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Barnum's Autobiography, p. 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d., cheap, 2s. 6d.
 Blakey's (R.) Hist. of Political Literature, 2 vols., cl., £1 4s.
 Chassieu's (G. W.) *Druses of Lebanon*, 8vo, cloth, 14s.
 Doran's Habits, &c., post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Encyclopedia Britannica, 4to, cloth, Vol. 7, £1 4s.
 Finlayson's (W.) Common Law Procedure, 12mo, cloth, 14s.
 Galloway's (W. B.) *Messiah*, 8vo, cloth, 9s.
 Hamberg's (Rev. T.) *Chinese Rebel Chief*, fcap., bds., 1s. 6d.
 Hutton's Tables, royal 8vo, boards, reduced 12s.
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Wolf's (J. W.) Fairy Tales, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
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THE PANOPTICON.

THE affairs of the Panopticon of Science and Art having been brought under public discussion by a pamphlet circulated to the shareholders by Mr. Alfred Rosling, we have been requested to give insertion to the following authentic statement of facts:—In December, 1853, the Institution being then in an unfinished state, it became necessary to raise a loan of 20,000*l.* for its completion. This was effected by means of a mortgage, Mr. Henry Hoare, the banker, of Fleet-Street, privately advancing part of the money, and the remainder being obtained from two City firms upon notes of hand, given by eight of the then members of Council, the three remaining members refusing to take any share in the liability. Shortly after the opening of the Institution, in March last, it was discovered that the funds so raised had been exhausted, and further liabilities incurred for preliminary expenses, which it was necessary to liquidate. These liabilities having become pressing, a scheme was drawn up, by which it was agreed that such members of the Council as were willing to aid in extricating the Institution from its difficulties, should take up at par, i. e., at 10*l.* per share, 2000 shares, which remained unsold, the previously issued shares being at the time at a discount of 50 per cent. To this scheme those members of Council who had previously assisted the Institution by their personal security gave their adhesion, and the 2000 shares having been disposed of, an available sum of 20,000*l.* was realized, sufficient not only to cover all current liabilities, but to reduce the mortgage debt from 20,000*l.* to 12,000*l.* At the same time, the builder, who was made a party to the scheme, consented to take a second mortgage for the balance due to him on the settlement of his account. As a condition of this arrangement, it was stipulated, with the concurrence of the principal shareholders out of the Council, that none should hereafter take part in the management of the Institution who did not take part in this scheme, on the principle that power and responsibility should go hand in hand. The three members of Council who had refused to take part in this previous arrangement, again declined to take any part in this second scheme, and in conformity with the stipulation before referred to, were requested to resign. To of them complied with this request, but the third refused to do so. It then became a question whether the Institution should be suffered to go to ruin, or whether the majority of the shareholders, including the members of Council who had come forward at their personal expense and risk to save the Institution, should make use of the power vested in them by the deed of settlement, to enforce that gentleman's retirement. After repeated and fruitless efforts to induce him to resign, the necessary steps were eventually taken, and after a discussion which was satisfactory to nearly all present, at a special general meeting called for the purpose on the 14th instant, he tendered his resignation, the proxies alone which had been sent in previous to the meeting in favour of the Council amounting to upwards of 4200 out of 6400 available votes.

THE NEW BANK OF ENGLAND NOTE.

At the ordinary meeting of the Society of Arts, held on Wednesday evening, a paper was read by Mr. Alfred Smee, F.R.S., 'Upon the Bank of England Note, and the Substitution of Surface Printing from Electrotypes, for the ordinary Plate Printing.' Mr. Smee stated that the authorities of the Bank had determined to modify and improve the bank note, and that under the direction of the late governor, Mr. Hankey, a new form of Bank of England note had been designed. In the new note great improvements have been made in the paper on which the note is printed, and by the

employment of Smith and Brewer's patent the water-mark has been carried to greater perfection than heretofore. For the first time the letters and figures of the denomination are shaded, which produces considerable artistic effect, and greatly increases the difficulty of forgery. Many curious details were afforded of the extreme care taken to protect the public by preventing a single sheet of paper from being possibly abstracted from the formation of the pulp at the Bank paper mills, by Mr. Portal, to the final destruction of the notes.

A new Britannia has been devised by Mr. McClise, and engraved by Robinson, to be used in the place of the former vignette, and the writing on the new note is rendered, "I promise to pay to bearer on demand," instead of, "I promise to pay to Matthew Marshall or bearer," as heretofore.

Mr. Smee stated that he had proposed to the Bank a system whereby surface-printing from electrotypes should be substituted for the plate printing, and that with Mr. Hensman and Mr. Coe they had succeeded in bringing typography into successful operation for all the numerous forms of notes and cheques required. For this purpose the Britannia had been cut in steel by Mr. Thompson, and the letters had been produced in the best possible state of excellence by Mr. Skirving. The originals are never employed for printing, but are simply used as mould makers, from which electrocasts are taken, by the use of the ordinary Smee's battery and precipitating trough. The electro-metallurgic processes, as used in the Bank, were minutely described, together with several new points in connexion therewith. The bank-notes by this system are printed at a steam press, constructed by Napier, and no less than 3000 notes are printed per hour.

The author called attention to the theory of the inimitability. He stated that the system pursued by the Bank was so perfect that no forged note had ever escaped eventual detection. By the new system, the most perfect identity would be insured, and thus traders had only to pay attention to the quality of the paper, and the character of design, to protect themselves. The author stated that great importance was attached to identity, but further, he considered, that the doctrine of inimitability should be classed with the fanciful dreams of the philosopher's stone and elixir of life of a by-gone age.

The public were particularly recommended invariably to take down the letter and number of every note which came into their possession, as this short memorandum will suffice at the Bank to obtain every particular connected with it.

The paper was illustrated throughout by the means by which Mr. Smee's system has been carried out, as well as by specimens of the different parts of the processes required, and specimens of various denominations of bank notes were, by the kindness of Mr. Hubbard, the Governor of the Bank, exhibited to the Society.

After the reading of the paper by Mr. Smee, the Secretary stated that he had received from Mr. W. Stones some 'Observations on the Means Available for Securing Bank-notes, Cheques, and Similar Important Documents against Counterfeit and Alteration.' This gentleman considered that protection was to be sought in the accumulation of checks to forgery, rather than in the superiority of any one particular form of security. He reviewed some of the means more or less available for obtaining the desired security, treating of them under the following heads:—peculiarities in the pulp or manufacture of the paper; chemical preparations introduced at the time of manufacture or subsequently; water-marks or devices introduced for the purpose of distinguishing any given paper from all others; the style and subject of the engravings; and the inks used in the printing.

In a communication to the Secretary from Councillor Auer, Director of the Imperial Printing Office at Vienna, it is stated that they endeavour to prevent the possibility of the forgery of bank-notes by adopting a combination of processes, including the Nature Printing process, each opposed to the other in its manner of printing.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

OUR Scottish readers will rejoice to learn that the well-known zoologist, Dr. Johnston of Berwick-on-Tweed, has been induced to offer himself as a candidate for the Chair of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Johnston's numerous zoological works, published at frequent intervals during the last twenty years, from his maiden paper in 1832, in the 'Edinburgh Philosophical Journal,' to his delightful 'History of Molluscous Animals,' published in 1850, are signals characteristic of the genial spirit and eminent scientific qualities which go to make a sound teacher and accomplished lecturer. The Town-Council of Edinburgh have, we understand, decided not to divide the Chair, as had been contemplated.

A curious pamphlet has been published in Paris. It announces the recent discovery, in that city, of an unpublished manuscript by Walter Scott, consisting of a tale called 'Moreduin.' The story told about the manuscript is this:—There lived in Paris, several years ago, a German merchant, who was afflicted with the mania of possessing manuscripts of distinguished modern writers. When Sir Walter visited Paris, to collect materials for his 'History of Napoleon,' the German resolved, *comme qui conte*, to get a manuscript from him. This he found more difficult than he expected, and his mortification at being disappointed was such that he fell ill. At length he met with Mr. William Spencer, a friend of Sir Walter. To this person he communicated the desire which possessed him, and he consented, either from kindness of heart or for a present of money, to speak to Sir Walter on the subject. Sir Walter thought the demand too strange to be complied with, and he courteously but positively refused it. Thereupon the German manuscript hunter became greatly worse, in fact, in danger of death. Spencer told Anne Scott, Sir Walter's daughter, of his position, and represented to her what an awful thing it would be if the man were to die, in consequence of her father's refusal to humour his whim. Anne was alarmed, and proceeded to pester her father. To please her, Sir Walter, after a while, consented to give the man a manuscript—it was 'Moreduin.' He probably thought no more of the matter. Time wore on and the German died. At the sale of his effects the manuscript fell into the hands of a M. Cabany. He carefully preserved it until his death, which took place recently, when it descended to his son; and that son it is who has made its existence and history known to the public. Such is what the newly published pamphlet says; the reader may believe it or not as he pleases,—for ourselves we doubt its truth exceedingly. M. Cabany gives a letter purporting to have been written by Sir Walter Scott to his friend Spencer, which sets forth the alleged facts of the case; but this letter is so full of French idiomatic phrases, that it cannot have been translated from English, and Sir Walter would not, of course, have written in French to an English friend.

We trust that permanent good will result from the recent commotions at Christ's Hospital. At a Special General Court of the Committee of Almoners and Governors on Tuesday, on the report of the Committee of Almoners being given in, and a formal proposition made that the report be received, an amendment, by Mr. Russell Gurney, was carried to the effect that a Committee of Inquiry should be appointed to consider whether any, and if any, what changes are desirable in the constitution, powers, and duties of the Committee of Almoners. The speakers generally professed to have confidence in the existing management; but there are many abuses that will be brought to light if the Committee of Inquiry performs its duty in a searching and honest manner. It was also carried at this meeting that reporters from the newspaper press should be admitted at all future meetings of the Governors. This is another step in the right direction, from which beneficial results may be anticipated.

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Bible Society

this week the Earl of Panmure paid a merited tribute to the memory of the late Lord Rutherford, one of the Scottish judges, and formerly Lord Advocate for Scotland. He said it was chiefly through Lord Rutherford's exertion that the old Bible monopoly in the northern part of the island had been abolished, and that provision was made for freedom of printing, along with security for the text, through the supervision of a Board of Commissioners. Lord Rutherford, who died last week at the age of sixty-three, was a man of high literary taste, but was not known to the public as an author. When Lord Advocate he possessed much influence in the House of Commons, through his business talents and his ready speaking.

Madame Ida Pfeiffer having returned from her second voyage round the world, after three and a half years' absence, we may look for a narrative of her observations and adventures. From time to time we have noticed in our columns her movements, as reported from different regions of the world. The general course of her voyages and travels will be seen in the following list of places on her route:—The Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, Molucca Islands, Batavia, California, Lima, Peru, across the Andes to Quito, Guayaquil, Panama, New Orleans, up the Mississippi, Chicago, Lakes of Canada, Quebec, and New York. The narrative of the adventurous traveller will be looked for with much interest.

The Committee of the Salford Public Museum and Library have presented their sixth Annual Report, by which it appears that there has been a steady and progressive increase of readers, whilst a sensible improvement has been observed in the character of the books selected for reading. In drawing up an analysis of the occupations of the applicants a large proportion are found to be young artisans, and we may conclude that the desire for sound industrial improvement is gradually on the increase. The additions to the museum during the past year consist chiefly of a number of casts from the antique, and a variety of geological specimens.

Notwithstanding the pressure of public affairs during the brief Parliamentary session, the opportunity has not been lost of bringing up many miscellaneous topics of interest. Among these a question on the newspaper stamp duties drew from the Chancellor of the Exchequer an assurance that the subject was under the consideration of the Government. To a question as to the use of the vacant space of St. Paul's Churchyard, the President of the Board of Works said that "although it might be a gross act of vandalism on the part of the City authorities to build upon it, yet he, as Commissioner of Works, had no power to prevent it, nor had he any funds for the purchase of the ground in question; indeed, he did not think if he had, Parliament ought to give 60,000*l.* to the City of London for the purpose of inducing them to do their duty." The matter now rests with the Court of Common Council, if the wealthy Corporation will have the generosity to forego this money for the sake of the honour of the City, the satisfaction of the nation, and the gratification of all lovers of architecture and art.

The Geographical Society of Paris held its annual sitting a few days ago. It was announced that the government is prepared to support and reward travellers who may be willing to explore the parts of Africa between Senegal and Timbuctoo; from Lake Tchad to the mouth of the Tchadda by way of Yola and Yaoba; from lake Tchad to Bolenia in four degrees north latitude; and from Mombas in the coast to Bolenia, by Mount Kenia. A detailed report on the operations of the Society during the preceding year was read. An account was given of a voyage on the White Nile, by M. Brun-Rollet, to as low down as three degrees north latitude, which is considerably farther than any traveller has yet gone. On his way he fell in with some very singular tribes. A paper on the discovery of the remains of Sir John Franklin's expedition was to have been read, but want of time caused it to be postponed.

In consequence of the fraudulent use of their initial titles as noticed in a letter from a correspondent in our last, the Council of the Society of

Antiquaries have resolved to take into consideration, at an early opportunity, the best means of preventing the forgery. In the meantime, it has been decided that the names of all persons so offending shall be publicly advertised.

To the attractions of the Crystal Palace have been added for this season a Christmas tree and other objects of juvenile interest and curiosity. The military concerts and the reduced rates of admission on Saturdays have restored a little of the wonted circulation, which had been almost suspended in the dull winter season.

The French Academy of Moral and Political Societies has, since our last, held its annual meeting in Paris. M. Guizot presided on the occasion, and delivered an interesting speech; but it was chiefly remarkable for allusions more or less direct to the present situation of political affairs in France. Prizes for the best treatises on certain questions were distributed, and the subjects for which prizes are to be given next year were announced.

M. Leon Faucher, an eminent French writer on questions of political economy, has just died. Amongst his productions are two large volumes, called 'Etudes sur l'Angleterre,' one of the best and most serious books on our country published in France. M. Faucher played a leading part in political affairs, and was for some time a Cabinet Minister.

The French Academy of Sciences has elected M. Payer a Member of its Botanical section in the room of the late M. Gaudichaud.

The New York 'Medical Gazette' announces that a new opera company is about to be established in that city. "A troupe is partly engaged and partly on its way across the Atlantic, which, it is said, will have sufficient force and ability for the representation of Italian, German, and English opera. Especial care has been taken that the *ensemble* shall be good, and it is not intended to expend all the receipts upon one or two avaricious stars. We have heard some information in regard to the members of this new company. Madame Clara Novello is a certainty; Johanna Wagner, a probability."

A memorial bust, in marble, of the Rev. Dr. Croly has just been completed by Mr. Behnes, and the Committee intrusted with the commission have expressed their entire satisfaction of the result.

The theatrical and musical week in Paris has been of considerable importance; but the importance has been of such a nature as not to require a detailed description. At the Théâtre Français a little one-act comedy, in verse, and not by any means badly written, has been produced, under the title *La Dot de ma Fille*. The author of the piece is the actor Samson, and he himself plays the principal part in it—that of an old German bookworm who, to his horror, has to sell his library, which he has spent all his life and all his means in collecting, in order to give a modest fortune to his daughter on her marriage with the man of her heart. Madame de Girardin has achieved another dramatic success, and in a walk to which she had not before descended—that of vaudeville; she has given the Gymnase a piece called *Le Chapeau de l'Horloger*, which, though not novel in incident, is so amusingly written as to attract large audiences nightly and make them laugh heartily. At the same theatre a *petite comédie*, in one act, called *L'Ecole des Agneaux*, has been brought out; it is by Dumanoir, is in verse, and is not without merit. In the musical way we have to record the resuscitation of Auber's famous *Muet de Portici* at the Grand Opera; but neither the vocal nor instrumental execution was what it ought to have been, and the success accordingly was more modest than was to have been expected from the great popularity of this most admirable opera. A few repetitions will, however, bring the execution up to the mark. A young lady, named Pouille, *débüté* in the principal part, but made no very great sensation. Gardoni was the *Mute*, but he sang too high; and Cerrito was the *Mute*, but she proved herself to be possessed of no great skill in expressing emotion by gesture. The everlasting Adolphe Adam has brought out another new three-act opera

at the Théâtre Lyrique. Like most of his productions it displays no great originality, but two or three *morceaux* are very agreeable. It is called the *Muet de Tolède*.

Madame Stoltz has, to the surprise of the public, suddenly determined on putting an end to her engagement with the Grand Opera at Paris. The director of the theatre makes no objection, but has taken legal proceedings to make her pay the forfeit of 2000*l.* stipulated "in her bond."

The wife of Omer Pacha has just had published, at Paris, five military marches of her composition for the piano. They are the first musical productions known to exist of the wife of a professing Mussulman.

A new opera by Auber, libretto by Scribe, is about to be put in rehearsal at the Grand Opera at Paris.

There are no dramatic novelties of any consequence to notice this week on the London stage, preparations being busily made for the Christmas pantomimes. We hope that the just fate of Mr. Lover's play, at the Haymarket, *The Sentinel of the Alma*, has supplied a useful warning to managers not to trifle with public feeling by silly and ill-placed jokes on the subject of the war. At the Olympic there has been produced a piece of slight construction, *A Wife's Journal*, adapted from the French, in which, with the usual Parisian levity, the domestic feelings of married life are turned to ridicule, but in this instance with a conclusion to the piece which leaves nothing to object to. The trouble caused by the revelations of the wife's secret journal is very amusingly represented.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Nov. 29th.—W. Hawes, Esq., in the chair. The first paper read was 'On Unused and Unappreciated Articles of Raw Produce, from different parts of the World,' by Mr. P. L. Simmonds. After speaking of the urgent wants for new materials of commerce, and a larger supply of old staples than are at present available, the author spoke of the obligations of commerce to science, observing that the various nations of the earth were each helping on the progress of mankind towards greater comfort, and towards general civilization. It was a singular feature to watch the mutations that took place after a few years in the fields of production of various staples, and the rapidity with which they were transplanted to distant quarters, as local facilities of fresh soil, cheap land, labour, and colonization were found to exist. Notwithstanding the occasional failure of our potato crop from disease, arising in a great measure from degeneracy, we have done little towards renovating our stock, or experimentalizing on new tuberous roots, and yet there is a large field open. Many potato-like plants, producing edible tubers, exist in Peru, Mexico, and other parts of America, approaching very nearly to the common species, and only requiring culture to enlarge or improve them. There are numerous varieties of tropical and other plants, whose barks and fibres are admirably fitted to supply not only the place of flax and hemp, but to form good and cheap substitutes for silk. Of these Manilla hemp and pita, the common pinguin, the agave or American aloe, the anana or pine apple fibre, bromelias, Indian hemp, jute, plantain fibre, the pchro, mahoe, and other species of hibiscus, the trumpet tree or snake wood, various specimens of reseo in Cape Colony, the rhea and plants producing the China grass cloth, New Zealand flax, and many others, furnish valuable materials applicable to our textile manufactures, for paper pulp and cordage. Dr. Hunter, of Madras, recently sent home some plantain fibre, which was stated to be worth 70*l.* per ton. It is a very silky material, is of considerable strength, and takes dyes beautifully; the same gentleman is having prepared many other fibres for use in imitation of silk, or fine linen, to sew ladies' collars, and for crochet work, for which it is suited, as also for the manufacture of ornamental braid for lining carriages. The Hon. Francis Burke, the puisne judge of Montserrat, has

just completed a small machine which perfectly cleans the plantain fibre, and leaves a beautiful white, silky substance, resembling flax, only that it is three times the length of flax, and it is capable of being manufactured into any description of textile fabrics, from the finest cambric to the coarsest sail cloth. A small hand machine will cost little over three guineas, is so portable that it is contained in a box 18 inches square, and yet with the assistance of a mere child to feed it, it will clean about 150 lbs. per day. Mr. J. B. Sharpe has also recently patented improvements in machinery for the manufacture of fibres in Jamaica, Demerara, and Montserrat. From fibres the author passed to gums, which enter largely into our commercial transactions, coming chiefly from Asia and Africa. In Morocco, about the middle of December, the gum harvest commences, and the Arabs encamp on the borders of the forest, to collect the gum from the various species of acacia tree. It is highly nutritious, and the Moors of the desert live almost entirely upon it, six ounces being sufficient for a man for twenty-four hours. In Australia, and the Cape Colony, where numberless species of acacia abound, a considerable quantity of gum might be collected. There are no less than twenty-two plants already registered as productive of gutta percha in India alone, mostly of the fig and euphorbia tribes. Many hundred maunds of the India rubber gum are obtained in the forest of Chardivan, in Assam, from the *Picus elastica*. A large creeper (*Ureola elastica*) abounding in the Indian Archipelago, is another source of supply. The tree which yields it in Brazil is the *Siphonia elastica*. The India-rubber tree grows in great abundance in some parts of the province of Chiriqui, Costa Rica, and yet notwithstanding its convenient locality near the Isthmus, and the great demand for the product, both in the United States and Europe, little or nothing has been done to bring it into notice or to make it available. The stoppage of supplies of tallow from Russia has led to experiments on, and inquiries for other materials. Mr. Wilson, of the Belmont works, Vauxhall, has patented certain improvements in treating a new vegetable tallow from Borneo, and nutmeg butter by powerful acids, and fitting the product for the manufacture of candles; and a Liverpool merchant has taken out a patent for making soap by means of tallow extracted from materials hitherto considered worthless, and which can be obtained at one-sixth of the price paid for Russian tallow. The wax obtained from the berries of the candle berry myrtle is now occupying considerable attention at the Cape of Good Hope, where it can be obtained very cheap and in large quantities. Varieties of the shrub abound in Carolina, New Brunswick, and other parts of North America, and in the Bahamas. The oil or butter of the cacao seed is a production, the surpassing qualities of which only require to be made known in Europe to supersede many other productions of the sort. The products of the forests of the globe, and their uses, next claimed attention, and it was thought that this department had hitherto been very much neglected. There was an inexhaustible supply of useful ornamental timber in many of our colonies, which could be profitably and beneficially employed in many branches of European industry. Then again how much remained to be done in the production of wines, brandy, cider, vinegar, shrub, cordials, essences, and liqueurs of all kinds from tropical juices and fruits. The trade in simades ought also to open up a new era for the West Indies, as abundant in rich and palatable fruits. In medicinal plants, central and South America particularly abound, vast numbers of which have never yet been tested by our pharmacutists. The paper then went on to speak of the products of the sea, referring particularly to fish oils, the coarse and impure kinds of which are much used by fullers and carriers. The application of steam to the extraction of oil from seal blubber would doubtless both increase the quantity and improve the quality. Many fish might be dried and reduced to powder like the larger conger eels on the Devonshire coast, which are exported

largely to Spain and Portugal, where the powder is used for enriching soup. Sea-shells form a considerable item of commerce, and might be much more introduced. Mother-of-pearl shells, to the extent of millions, could be imported from the South Sea Islands and China Seas. The products from the animal kingdom were then considered, and it was stated that a large quantity of glue might be made abroad from the parings and cuttings of hides and all animal skins, the tendons and other offal of slaughter-houses yielding an inferior quality. The flesh of immense herds of buffaloes which range the vast American prairies is at present entirely wasted. The tenants of the air were then noticed, and it was thought that the large passenger pigeon of America might advantageously be introduced into this country. The products of the insect tribe were well worthy of more attention; silk, especially, had been much neglected, cochineal, lac, cantharides, galls, honey, and bees-wax, were all articles of commercial importance. The bees-wax of Ceylon, unlike that of Europe, contained no elements of acidity. Many of our colonies could produce a large amount of honey and wax; Canada produces a fair supply, and a great deal was shipped from Cuba. The second paper was 'On the Influence of Climate on Production,' by Mr. A. G. Findlay, F.R.G.S. The author considered that the nature of raw products was dependent on the physical and climatological conditions of their locality. Viewed in this way, we should see that in certain corresponding portions of the globe there would be a similarity of animal and vegetable products, resulting from their physical relations; and supposing that it be desirable or necessary to seek for an increased supply of any particular class of products, it might certainly be found in other localities, perhaps untried, corresponding to those from which it might have been previously derived. It was by no means intended to assert that this class alone would be found as a staple produce; nature seemed to demand a rotation of products, and perhaps it was to this cause that the migrations of commerce, singular in their aspect, had arisen. The producing powers of a country had declined from the fact of but one article, in lieu of many, being cultivated.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Nov. 28th.—Dr. Lee in the chair. Rev. H. Gardiner, Rev. J. Wolley, Dr. Buist, Dr. G. F. Burder, Dr. Merryweather, Dr. Paine, T. Collis, F. W. Doggett, E. Hughes, W. Ingram, and R. C. Kemp, were elected Members. 'Upon the Weather, in connexion with Aphid Blight and Growth of Hops,' by F. W. Doggett, Esq. The author commenced by observing, that about the spring of the year 1849 his attention was called to the subject of the aphid blight in hops, in connexion with the fall of rain, by having an extract from Mr. Glaisher's Quarterly Report of Meteorological Observations placed in his hands, a copy of which he took; but from a variety of circumstances the matter passed from his mind until the present spring, when, meeting with the extract again, he was struck with the fact of the similarity of the weather of the past autumn with that of the years alluded to in the report, and which was succeeded by a short crop of hops. The following is a copy of the extract:—"The rain in the quarter ending September, 1848, amounted to nine inches at Greenwich—the average fall of rain during this quarter, as derived from observations since the year 1815, is seven inches."

In the year 1824 the fall of rain in this

	quarter was . . .	9 inches.
" 1828	12½ "	
" 1829	11 "	
" 1839	10½ "	
" 1848	9 "	

Upon applying at the Greenwich Observatory, the author was furnished with a table containing the monthly fall of rain for thirty-eight years, from which he deduced the average fall of rain for each month and quarter of the above period of thirty-eight years, and compared the quarterly average of each year with that of the quarterly

average of the whole number of years, and found that the years in which an excess of rain had fallen, in or about the quarter ending September of the previous year, the quarter ending December and the month of March following being both comparatively deficient, were followed by a short crop of hops, arising from the aphid blight; and, on the contrary, when the quarter ending September of the previous year had been dry, an average or large crop has been grown; when the quarter ending September had been wet, and the December quarter very wet, a like result had followed. The author then became anxious to carry his investigation farther back, and obtained from Mr. Glaisher the monthly fall of rain taken at the apartments of the Royal Society, from the year 1787 to 1815, which being treated in the same manner yielded similar results. There appear to be a few exceptions to the before mentioned rules; but upon referring to Mr. Glaisher's table of temperature, 'Phil. Trans.' part 2, for 1850, it will be seen that the temperature of the summer quarter of the years in which such exceptions occur, was much below the average of seventy-nine years for the same quarter. For example, take the year 1816; the fall of rain in the quarter ending September of the previous year had been below the average, and therefore a full average crop might have been anticipated, but the quantity grown was very short, and, on reference to the table of temperatures, it appears that the summer quarter of the year 1816 was below the average of seventy-nine years by 5°. Nearly similar results appear with respect to the following years:—

1795 was 2.2° below the average.
1791 " 0.5° "
1796 " 1.8° "

When the weather of the previous year has been such as to indicate a blight, there may be partial recovery, if the temperature succeeding should be very hot, as in the years 1807 and 1849, which were respectively 1°6 and 1° above the average. On the other hand, the heat may come too late to cause much improvement in the plant, as in the years 1825, 1800, and 1798. On referring to the table of temperature, it was found that with few exceptions all the small crops were grown in years in which the temperature of the summer quarter was below the average, and also that the large crops were produced in years in which the temperature of the like period was high. If we take the temperature of the years in which the twenty-two smallest crops were given, and compare it with that of the years which produced the twenty-two largest crops, we shall find that in the first instance the average produce was equal to 55,728.7 duty, with an average temperature of the summer quarter of -0.9°; and in the latter case 211,909.7 was the average produce, with an average temperature of +1½°. The author instanced a few years comprised within each of the two above instances.

1812—3°9 produced . . .	£30,000
1816—4°8 " . . .	46,000
1817—2°6 " . . .	66,000
1799—2°4 " . . .	73,000
1796—1°8 " . . .	75,000
1795—2°2 " . . .	82,000
1826+3°9 " . . .	269,000
1808+2°1 " . . .	251,000
1846+4°3 " . . .	243,000
1835+2°6 " . . .	235,000
1847+1°8 " . . .	216,000
1822+2°1 " . . .	204,000
1818+4°2 " . . .	190,000

He then mentioned the fact of our having experienced a succession of cold summers, which have produced only short or average crops, in the years 1811 to 1817 inclusive; and also, on the contrary, we have had years following in which the temperature of the summer was high, and in which large crops were grown—1834, 1835, 1836, 1846, and 1847 are examples. On this subject he quoted from the work of Mr. Glaisher on Thermometrical Observations (before mentioned), p. 592, in which he says, alluding to table 22—"These numbers do

not at all confirm the idea that a hot summer is either preceded or followed by a cold winter, or vice versa;—on the contrary, it would seem that any hot or cold period has been most accompanied by weather of the same character. The cold year of 1771 was followed by two cold years. The hot year of 1779 was preceded by one warm year and followed by two others. In 1780 the extreme cold of January was more than counterbalanced by the extreme heat of March. The cold year of 1782 was followed by a long series of cold years. The very cold year of 1799 was followed by a cold autumn and winter. The warm year of 1806 was preceded by a warm winter. The very cold year of 1814 (the last very cold year we have had) was preceded by a cold summer, autumn, and winter. The hot year of 1818 was preceded by a moderate winter, and was followed by a warm one. The hot year of 1822 was preceded by a warm winter, and was followed by a moderately cold one. The hot year of 1834 followed a very mild winter, and was followed by another. The hot year of 1846 was preceded by a warm winter, and was followed by a moderate one. The warm year of 1848 was both preceded and followed by warm periods." The author did not think that we should confine ourselves too strictly within the limits of either month or quarter in the consideration of this subject, as he found, in some cases where a blight has occurred, the fall of rain in the quarter ending September has not always been much in excess; but on referring to the fall which took place in the month previous, he has found that the fall of rain has been such as fully to make up such excess; as in the years below:—

1792, March, April, May, June, July, August, and September in excess.

1797, June in excess (fall 4·2 inches.)

1789, June in excess (fall 3·2 inches.)

1824, May and June (fall 3·8 and 3·5 inches respectively.)

1848, June (fall 3·5 inches.)

The author concluded by remarking that without doubt the result of each crop will be influenced by various circumstances; for instance, the condition of the plant produced by the crop of the preceding year (whether crop or blight); gales of wind also reduce the quantity of growth considerably at times, as in the year 1833, when there was a hurricane blowing for three days, August 30, 31, and September 1; the quantity supposed to have been blown away was about one-fourth part of the quantity grown.

ASIATIC.—Dec. 2nd.—Sir George T. Staunton, Bart., in the chair. Andrew Wight, Esq.; A. K. Forbes, Esq.; and J. W. Redhouse, Esq.; were elected into the Society. The Assistant Secretary read a letter which he had just received from Colonel Rawlinson; who, at the date of writing, was encamped under the ruins of ancient Babylon, where he had been engaged in tracing the course of the old river through the ruins; and had succeeded, by the aid of bricks and slabs with inscriptions, all found where they were originally deposited, in identifying most of the buildings of the city, and in tracing the ancient wall, which gave a circumference pretty nearly agreeing with what we have received from Greek information. The terrific heat (110° in the tent) had, however, stopped out-door work; and the Colonel had passed the time in his tent in making a literal translation of the great slab found on the Euphrates, brought home by Sir H. Jones in 1807, and deposited in the East India House. He promised to send this translation as soon as completed; and in the meantime he transmits an abstract of it, recording, in succession, the repairs to the temple of Bel; repairs to minor temples; the rebuilding of the walls; the introduction of water into the city; the erection of fortifications and outer walls; the adorning of the gates; the building of the new palace (the Kasr); the statement that the work was begun on the new moon of Shalamu, and completed on the 15th day (query, in a subsequent year?); and the formation of the hanging gardens, with stones like mountains (not themselves like mountains). The

close adherence of Berossus to this statement satisfies Colonel Rawlinson that the Chaldean historian must have had this document before him when he drew up the notice of Nebuchadnezzar's works in Babylon, which is handed down to us by Josephus. This is in fact an epitome of the inscription in the East India House. In one passage, that of the admission of water from outside into the city, the slab agrees exactly with the ancient Armenian version of the passage published at Venice, the Greek original in that part being hopelessly corrupt. The incredible statement that Nebuchadnezzar completed his palace in fifteen days is justified by the inscription, though it may be understood diversely. The only part of the statement transmitted by Josephus not found in the inscriptions is, that in which Nebuchadnezzar is stated to have made the celebrated hanging gardens for the purpose of pleasing his Median queen, which the Colonel is of opinion Josephus might have mentioned as a probable inference, or with a view to connect Nebuchadnezzar with the Medes. The examination of this document has raised Berossus greatly in the Colonel's opinion as an accurate compiler; and he is consequently induced to accept his chronology without hesitation. The excavations at Birs Nimrud, which have been on a grand scale, have resulted in nothing of consequence; no inscription—not a cylinder has been found. At Koyunjik fine sculptures are still found, but nothing new in inscriptions. The tablets met with are merely contracts, benefactions, or mythological formulae. A letter was read from Dr. Hincks, replying to the critique of Colonel Rawlinson on some readings of his published in the 'Literary Gazette.' The Doctor states that he saw and read a tablet at the British Museum, fully justifying his reading of the name he has attributed to Assurnadin, the son of Sennacherib, to which the Colonel objects; but as this is a matter of little moment, he passes on to the remarks of Colonel Rawlinson, on his attribution to Nabopalassar of another royal name, found on tablets and bricks at Babylon—a name which the Colonel declared to be read Nabonitus, who began to reign in 555 B.C. Dr. Hincks, in support of his own opinion, states that the bricks containing the name in question were found at the river-side; and that the great inscription deposited at the East India House distinctly mentions the works by the river-side, completed by himself, as having been begun by his father Nabopalassar. He also says, that the final character in the disputed name is interchangeable with one which is also interchangeable with the final character of the name of Nabopalassar, read by him *Yuchur*. On these grounds he maintains his opinion, that the name in question is that of Nabopalassar.

ANTIQUARIES.—Nov. 30th.—Frederick Ouvry, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair. Mr. Wylie exhibited some specimens of the heads of iron weapons presented to him by the Abbé Schmit, of Treves, in the neighbourhood of which they were discovered. Similar heads may be seen in the museums of the Rhine and the Moselle, in which they are classed with mediæval weapons, and fitted to short arrow shafts, explaining that they are cross-bow bolts. Mr. Wylie was, however, disposed to regard them as belonging to the last Roman or Frankish period, illustrating his remarks by examples of Frankish arms, of which he exhibited drawings. The Rev. Thomas Hugo exhibited a metal cross found during the past summer in the churchyard of Walton le Dale, near Preston, and presented to him by the incumbent soon after. The churchyard of Walton le Dale was the scene of the incantations of Edmund Kelly and Doctor John Dee. Mr. Sells exhibited an idol in jade found in the river Minho, Clarendon, Jamaica, many years ago. Mr. Lewis Loyd exhibited a quantity of fragments of 'celts,' spear-heads, &c., of the primæval period, discovered a few days ago on a farm in the neighbourhood of Croydon. These objects, except three of the 'celts,' appear to have been broken up preparatory to their being consigned to the crucible. Several masses of crude metal were found at the same time. The

Secretary read an extract from a letter he had received from M. Troyon, of Bel Air, stating that he had been recently informed by a Livonian baron that there exists a tradition in Poland, according to which, the chief of a Wendel tribe invaded Switzerland, and sojourned some time in the neighbourhood of the Jura. M. Troyon thought it not improbable that this was the occasion on which the *Hill of Sacrifice*, described by him in a communication to the Society in the last session, and printed in the 'Archæologia,' was erected. Mr. G. R. Corner communicated an account of some excavations which had been made under his directions at Keston, near Bromley, in Kent, the well-known site of Roman remains described by the late Mr. A. J. Kemp, and printed in the 'Archæologia.' On this occasion Mr. Corner's operations were confined to researches on the site of what appeared to have been a Roman villa, the foundations of which were laid bare. Many fragments of Roman pottery were discovered, and a coin of Valerius in third brass. Mr. Corner showed, by a quotation from a charter of Athilberht, King of Wessex, that Keston received its name from the stone coffins (cystannings) existing here at the time of the Saxon possession. Several 'marks' are mentioned in the charter in question, among which is 'cystannings-meara.' In 'Doomsday Book' this locality is called Cheston. Traces of further remains were discovered in the adjoining fields, and Mr. Corner expressed a hope that in the autumn of the next year he should be able to renew his investigations.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Dec. 4th.—Edward Newman, Esq., F.L.S., President, in the chair. George Wailes, Esq., was elected a member. Mr. Pickersill exhibited a specimen of the rare British butterfly *Argynnis Luthonia*, taken by himself at Eastbourne on the 29th July last. Mr. Stevens exhibited some coleopterous larvæ, probably of *Gnorimus nobilis*, which had killed an old cherry-tree by boring into the wood, a log of which, quite perforated, he also showed. Mr. Tweedy exhibited some coleoptera and lepidoptera just arrived from Scinde, among which were some new species. Herr Pretsch, manager of the Imperial Printing Office at Vienna, exhibited a large number of photographic representations on paper of insects and their various parts. Mr. Westwood observed, with respect to photographs of insects generally, and these might also be included, that they were wanting in the clearness of delineation of the smaller portions, such as tarsi, necessary to render them of entomological value. Mr. Curtis said, if greater distinctness in detail could be obtained, the photographic process would be of inestimable value in obtaining correct representations of the wings of *Ichnumonidae*, and of the neurulation of wings of insects generally. The President exhibited a specimen of *Anthocharis cardamines*, having all the appearance of a female, except that the under side of the right upper wing was adorned with the bright orange patch characteristic of the male. Mr. Westwood exhibited a sample of the silk of the *Bombyx Cynthia*, sent from Malta by Dr. Templeton, accompanied by a letter stating that it had been obtained by unwinding, which method had hitherto been found of insuperable difficulty with this species, in consequence of the gummy nature of the cocoons. It was also mentioned that articles had been made at Malta of this kind of silk, obtained by tearing up the cocoons, and that the cultivation of the silk-worms was fast extending, not only in Malta and Italy, but also to France, Algeria, and the West Indies; so that a great development of this branch of industry might be expected to result from the introduction of this Indian species of silk-worm into Europe through the untiring exertions of Sir William Reid. Mr. Westwood also stated that a parcel of pupæ sent to him by Sir William Reid had arrived safely, proving what had already been observed of them at Malta, that the insects are not affected by hard usage and low temperature. Mr. Curtis read a paper entitled 'Notes on the Economy of various Insects;' and Mr. Smith read 'An Essay on the Genera and Species of British Formicidae.'

ASIATIC.—Dec. 16.—Professor Wilson, director, introduced to the meeting a Hindu newspaper, called the *Sudhakar*, published at Benares. He observed that among the many periodicals, in native languages which issue from the press of India, and disseminate much useful knowledge as well as news, the paper before the meeting contained matter of a higher character than what is usually found in such journals, and was especially remarkable for an article by a learned Hindu, on an ancient stone pillar recently brought from Ghazipur by Major Kittos, and erected in front of the new college at Benares. Up to the present time the Hindus have been completely regardless of the antiquities of their country, and it has been left to the scholars of Europe to make known and explain her monuments. The pillar in question has a short inscription upon it, in ancient characters, which a pundit, by name Hirānāud, has deciphered and translated into Hindi. The translation, with a facsimile of the inscription, is printed in the newspaper; and there are appended some critical remarks of the editor upon the antiquity which the decipherer assigns to it. Misled by the names mentioned in the inscription, the decipherer carries it as far back as the era of the Pandu princes; but, as the editor properly remarks, the forms of the letters afford conclusive evidence that the inscription is not more than 2000 years old. The fact of a Hindu having devoted his attention to such an investigation is evidence of awakening interest among the natives of India in the history and antiquities of their country; while its publication in a periodical journal shows that the interest in such inquiries is not confined to a learned few, but is thought worthy of the attention of the whole reading class. This newspaper also contained some intelligence of the war with Russia, and was accompanied by an accurate, though roughly executed Hindu map of the Baltic. Professor Wilson also read a continuation of his papers on the Festivals of the Hindus. After noticing several ceremonial days of minor importance connected with the old vernal festivities, he arrived at the Rama Navami, held in honour of the birthday of Rama, on the ninth day of the lunar month Chaitra. The worship of Rama on this occasion is a very long and complicated process, occupying two or three days. Among the prayers employed on this occasion are several extracted from the Vedas, the use of which, for such purposes, would seem to show that the era of the demigod Rama was anterior to that of the Vedas. As is usual in rituals only the first word or two of the hymns employed on this occasion are cited. By means of these, however, he (Professor Wilson) had been enabled, with the aid of Dr. Müller, to identify most of the hymns. The great epic poem, the *Ramayana*, which celebrates the exploits of Rama, and forms the basis of the ceremonies in his honour, specifies certain astronomical positions as attending his birth, which have been verified by Mr. Bently as having taken place 961 years B.C., who thence infers that Rama's birth took place in that year. Supposing then that the time of Rama's birth, thus arrived at, is correct, and that the hymns of the Vedas recognise his existence, then the time of the composition of the hymns of the Vedas must be more modern than has been hitherto supposed. But in fact it had been found, in accordance with what he had stated on a former occasion, that the name of Rama is not once mentioned in the Vedas, and the hymns recited in his honour at his festival are addressed to Fire, the god of the firmament, and other divinities totally different in their character and attributes from the demigod Rama.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Dec. 6th.—Dr. Conolly, President, in the chair. Henry Christy, Esq.; Thomas Sidney Walker, Esq.; and James Walker, Esq., were elected Fellows of the Society. 'On the artificially compressed (Avarian?) Crania,' by Professor Retzius. The well-known skull in the possession of Count August von Breuner, found at Grafenegg, in Austria, exhibits a peculiar artificial form which is considered to belong to an individual of the Avarian Huns who lived in that neighbour-

hood about the end of the seventh century. Professor Joseph Hürtel, the eminent anatomist of Vienna, sent a copy of it in plaster to the Caroline Institution; and Professor Retzius, in describing it before the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, showed that this skull, which had been considered remarkable for its length, is, on the contrary, short; but certainly is extremely high. It is of the brachycephalic form, to which the skulls of the Avarians, as related to those of the Finlanders, must belong. Dr. Tschudi thought, from its artificial form, the skull was that of a Peruvian. Dr. Fitzinger is of opinion that it must undoubtedly have belonged to an individual of the ancient inhabitants of the district, as he found a similar one in Altgersdorf, in South Austria. The Professor accompanied his paper with drawings of a skull found by Mr. Trayon at Bel-Air, near Lausanne, in Switzerland, also showing artificial compression; and discoveries of other skulls of the same singular form were also made by the same person at the village of St. Romain in Savoy; and Professor Duvernay of Paris had also discovered a skull of a brachycephalic form in the Valley of the Doubs, not far from the Mandeuze, from which facts Professor Retzius states there is no doubt that they belonged to the Avarians who accompanied Attila's army. The Professor referred to 'Attila,' an historical work by Amédée Thierry, where the author shows that the proper Huns were Finlanders from the Ural and the Valley of the Volga; but that under the same government with them were Turks and Mongols, besides, later, Slaves, &c.; that Attila himself and part of his people have been described as of the Kalmuck type. The physical character of Attila is more like that of a Mongol than of a Finlander from the Ural; besides, we know that the Huns used artificial means for giving Mongolian physiognomy to their children; thus they pressed the nose flat with firmly-bound linen bandages, and also pressed the head to make the cheek-bones project. Roman authors state, that this artificial moulding of the head was to make the helmet fit better; but this is scarcely credible. It seems more probable that when the Mongols were masters of the Huns the Mongolian physiognomy was the prize attached to aristocratic distinctions; they consequently tried to obtain this form, and considered it an honour thus to deform themselves in order to resemble the dominant nation. Professor Retzius believes that this barbarous custom has now ceased among the Mongolians; but informs us, on the authority of Dr. Foville of Paris, that it still exists in many parts of France; is very common in Normandy, Bretagne, the old country, Toulouse, and several places where the Celtic race abounds. Did the custom of changing the form of the head arise spontaneously in both hemispheres? Was it carried from one to the other? If so, in which did it originate? The Professor will return to the discussion of these questions on a future occasion. After an interesting discussion, in which Drs. Conolly, Hodgkin, Browne, and other gentlemen took part, a paper called 'Ethnological Memoranda on the Negro Race, and on the Indians of Chili' (South America), by General Miller, communicated by his Excellency Sir John Bowring, was read. And a paper 'On the Ethnology of the Crimea,' by Richard Cull, Hon. Secretary, was also read.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Wednesday.—Microscopical, 8 p.m.

VARIETIES.

The Architectural Exhibition at the Royal Academy.—The merest glance round the exhibition now opened, which consists of 330 frames or strainers (some of them containing several drawings) and twenty-one sets of specimens in the Department for Materials, will suffice to show that the additional or permanent exhibition is required; and there is no doubt that now the matter is understood, and through longer notice being given, the fact will be made still more evident next year. At

present it is right to say the best possible feeling exists: we are simply guarding against what might arise. Although the Academician architects do not appear on the present occasion, one of the six brass doors designed by Mr. Cockerell for St. George's Hall, Liverpool, is exhibited (4), with the concurrence, of course, of the Professor, by his right-hand man, Mr. Goodchild. Mr. Tite sends his composition of the works of Inigo Jones (137), and Mr. Scott shows the south-eastern chapel of Doncaster church (99), now being rebuilt at the cost of Mr. Forman,—a nice piece of decorated work. Mr. T'Anson, Mr. E. B. Lamb, Mr. W. P. Griffith, Mr. Habershon, Mr. Fergusson, Mr. Ashpitel, Mr. J. B. Watson, Mr. Joseph Clarke, Mr. Digweed, Messrs. Deane and Bailey, Mr. Phipson, Mr. Truefit, Mr. James Murray, Mr. Allom, Mr. Papworth, Mr. Doldman, Mr. E. W. Tarn, Messrs. Prichard and Seddon, and many others whose names are known to our readers, are amongst the exhibitors. The Rev. J. L. Petit sends some of his architectural sketches; and there is a good sprinkling of excellent photographs by Mr. Francis Bedford, Mr. W. Russell Sedgfield, Mr. E. Roberts, and others. Photography will greatly subserve architects. A desire to turn brick to good account is observable in several of the drawings; and the designs for dwelling-houses of some by the younger men (those by Mr. Charles Gray, for example), show the right feeling, and if we mistake not, prefigure an advance. We shall be able to go more into detail hereafter, and in the meanwhile recommend all our readers to show their good-will by visiting the Exhibition.—*The Builder.*

Biblioteca Guatemalteca.—A prospectus has been recently issued in the city of Guatemala, for the publication of some of the valuable ancient MSS., which exist in the archives of the old Captain-Generalacy of Guatemala, together with a number of works of native authors. Many valuable MSS. must exist, scattered amongst the municipalities. There is one of Gonzalo de Alvarado, brother of the conqueror, and Juarros refers to histories compiled by the Caziques of the Pipil (or Nahuatl), Quicke, and Pocoman Indians, who had been taught to write in Spanish. He speaks also of the MSS. of Don Juan Torres, Juan Macario, and Francisco Gomez, descendants of the Kachiquel kings. Pelaez also mentions various documents which must have the highest interest and value to students, and which, if their publication does not fall within the competence of private enterprise or that of existing societies, should be brought out by the government. A title of the money annually squandered in quarrels which parody the name of wars, if spent in this manner, would confer more glory on the State than it has ever derived from its arms.—*Norton's 'Literary Gazette.'*

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS,
NEXT FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1854.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that, although it had been his intention, as in former years, to have limited the period of his Concerts to one short series, a variety of circumstances have, this season, induced him to depart from his accustomed practice.

The great success which has invariably attended these Entertainments has increased this year to such an enormous extent that it would really appear as if the omission of the last year's Concerts, in consequence of M. JULLIEN'S absence in America, had, instead of diminishing, added, in an extraordinary degree, to their popularity; and, indeed, as if the Public—deprived for one season of their favourite amusement—had, during the next, flocked towards it with a twofold eagerness. M. JULLIEN, in fact, during his late series of Concerts at Drury Lane Theatre, on many occasions, found it quite impossible to accommodate the numbers of persons who presented themselves for admission—this great anxiety to attend the Concerts not being confined to one class alone, but extending itself to the mass of persons visiting the promenade, as well as to the occupants of the Dress Circle and the Private Boxes. M. JULLIEN trusts this great success is not solely attributable to any one of the special attractions which he had provided for this year's Concerts, for, unprecedented as has been the enthusiasm evinced at every performance of the "Allied Armies' Quadrille," the great *piece de résistance* of the season, and several other portions of the Programmes, he hopes that the increased popularity of his Concerts may be fairly regarded as an evidence of a more widely spread taste for the works of the Great Masters, as well as a rapid and progressive aptitude in the mind of the Public generally for the appreciation and enjoyment of the better class of Musical Entertainments.

Under these circumstances, and in accordance with the wishes and advice of many of M. Jullien's Patrons and Friends, he de-

terminated to endeavour, if possible, to arrange a second short series of Concerts this season. The great difficulty, however, which at once presented itself, was the finding a building affording such increased space as it might fairly be supposed would be sufficient to accommodate a large additional number of Visitors. In this difficulty M. JULIEN sought the assistance of the Directors of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, their Theatre being the only one at all likely to afford the accommodation required; and it is with very great gratification he is enabled to state that the Directors, entering at once into his views, have, in the most handsome manner, placed their magnificent establishment entirely at his disposal, and thus rendered the most valuable aid in his efforts to cultivate the popular musical taste; M. JULIEN has, therefore, the honour to announce that the

SECOND SERIES OF CONCERTS

will commence on

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th,

and it will be seen that, popular as they have proved to be, he has not relied entirely for the amusement of his Audience on the novelties of the last Series of Concerts, but has provided, though at a very large cost, great additional attraction. He has entered into an engagement with

MADAME PLEYEL,

the most celebrated Pianist in Europe, to perform, for a limited number of nights. He has also entered into an engagement with that most distinguished performer on the Violin,

HERI ERNST,

for the purpose of executing the Classical Works of the great Masters.

MADAME ANNA THILLON,

whose charming Vocal Performances have received, nightly, such unambiguous marks of approbation, is re-engaged for the whole Series.

SIGNOR BOTTESINI,

who is daily expected from America, will appear immediately on his arrival.

HERR KOENIG

is also engaged. The above Artists, in addition to those already forming M. JULIEN'S Unrivalled Orchestra, will constitute a most unprecedented combination of Talent.

It is M. JULIEN'S intention to repeat, with additional attractions, the Evenings of the

BETHOVEN and MENDELSSOHN FESTIVALS,

and also, for the First Time, to give a CONCERT consisting entirely of the Works of MOZART.

MEYERBEER'S celebrated STRUENSEE (the Complete Work) will be performed; also a Selection arranged for full Orchestra, from Rossini's Opera, LE COMTE OBY; a Selection arranged for full Orchestra, from Verdi's New Opera, RIGOLETTO; a Selection for full Orchestra, from Spohr's Classical Opera JESSONDA, &c. &c.

In order to contribute to the amusement of the many JUVENILE VISITORS whom M. Julien hopes to see at his Concerts during the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS he has composed a new Comic Quadrille, entitled THE PANTOMIME QUADRILLE.

The NEW SLEIGHT POLKA, describing, with some curious and novel effects, sledge driving in America, will also be produced. The NEW GRAND ALLIED ARMIES' QUADRILLE, assisted by the THREE MILITARY BANDS of HER MAJESTY'S GUARDS, which has created such unparalleled enthusiasm, will be performed on the First Night, and on every evening until further notice. The nightly programme will, in fact, present an unequalled variety and excellence. The whole Area of this magnificent Theatre, the audience portion as well as the stage, will be converted into one IMMENSE SALLE, and exhibit an entirely new and tasteful decoration, the whole being carpeted, warmed, and ventilated.

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THE READING ROOM,

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Notwithstanding the vast outlay necessarily incurred by the above arrangements, it is M. Julien's intention, in the regulation of the admission, to preserve the popular character of his Entertainments, and to retain the usual scale of Prices.

Prices of Admission.

Penonade, }
UPPER BOXES, } ONE SHILLING.
AMPHITHEATRE SEATLS, }
AMPHITHEATRE, }
DRESS CIRCLE, 2s. 6d.
PRIVATE BOXES, 12s., 21s., 31s. 6d.

The Concerts on each evening will commence at 8 o'clock, and terminate before 11. Places and Private Boxes may be engaged at the BOX OFFICE of the Theatre, and Private Boxes of the principal Librarians and Booksellers.

N.B.—In consequence of M. Julien's provincial engagements into which he has already entered, it will not be possible to extend the Concerts beyond ONE MONTH.

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30	1 1 3	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7	
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 19	
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11	
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10	

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